



**Special Issue: THE CHAMPIONS IN DANGER!**

March 1980

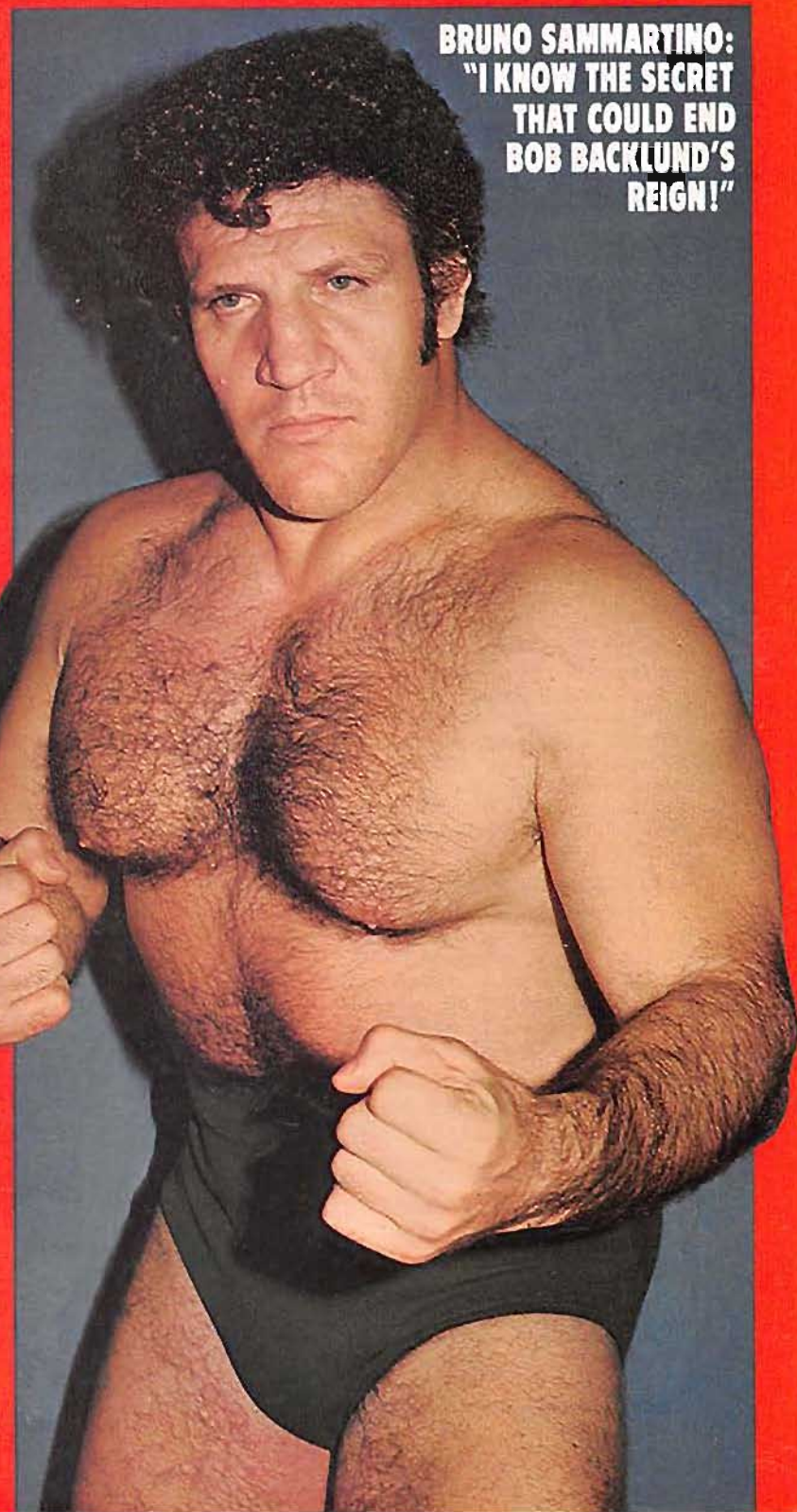
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# THE Wrestler

**DID DICK MURDOCH  
CAUSE HARLEY RACE  
TO LOSE THE TITLE  
TWICE?**



**BRUNO SAMMARTINO:  
"I KNOW THE SECRET  
THAT COULD END  
BOB BACKLUND'S  
REIGN!"**



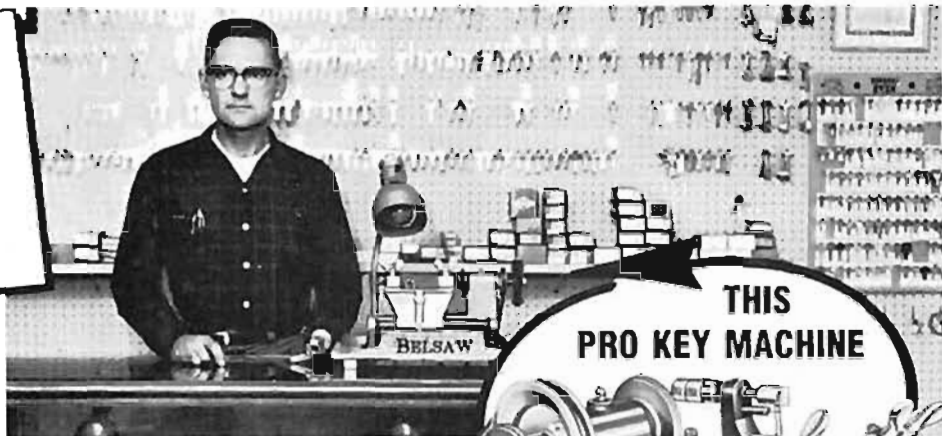
**NICK  
BOCKWINKEL--  
THE LAST  
HURRAH?**





"War injuries left me severely handicapped, but I'm making a very good living in Locksmithing, thanks to your course. Word of mouth advertising has been enough to make my business a financial success from the start. Besides, I'm my own boss doing something I thoroughly enjoy."

says Glen Johnson,  
Larned, Kansas.



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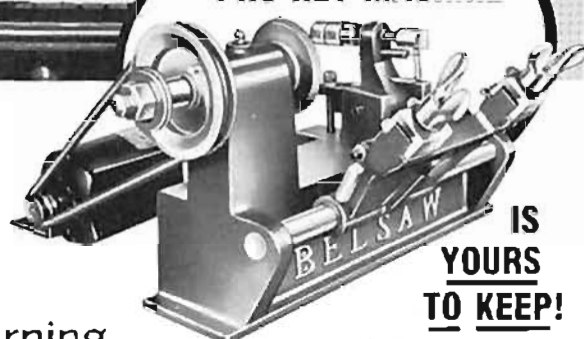
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# THE GUARANTEED HAIR PLAN

BECAUSE I WOULD RATHER HAVE HAIR THAN NOT

By T.G.M. KLAR, President, Klar Company M/O Division

**THE PICTURES ARE THE PROOF.** I certainly think that I look much better with a healthy head of hair than without.

When my hair became thin and started falling out I became concerned.

Through an artist's rendition in the retouched photograph of me without hair you can see why I would be concerned. Like most people I would rather have hair than not, however, I did not want to have thin, lifeless hair.

The picture on the right is a recent photograph of me - **totally unretouched** - with a thick, healthy head of **MY OWN** hair at 35. As you can see I am no longer worried

about a hair problem. **How did I solve it?** Actually, it was just a simple **1-2 step** once I found the solution. After years of trying different hair products, shampoos, creams and vitamins to help my own thin hair problem, I recognized that **MANY** hair problems, male and female, were two-fold.

**FIRST:** Hair may become oily and limp, dry, lifeless and **THIN**.

**SECOND:** Healthy new hair might **GROW OUT SLOWLY** or may **NOT** grow out at all in places. It became obvious to me that for a two-part hair problem, a two-part solution was needed.

(1) I had to find a way to get back a **thick, healthy growth of hair**.

(2) I needed to find a substance that would **protect** the hair that I had. Something that would make it appear healthier and **THICKER** right away. I didn't want to wait for 6 months or a year. As you can imagine, my Company and I went all out to find a solution.

After several years of research, we finally came up with a solution. It came in two steps: **Step 1** - Solved my problems of having limp, lifeless and **THIN HAIR**, and **Step 2** - Solved the problem of my **HAIR GROWING OUT SLOWLY** or not growing at all in places.

## — THE SOLUTION —

**[PART 1]** Since your **HAIR** and **SCALP** grow from **THE INSIDE OF YOUR BODY OUTWARD**, it is **absolutely necessary** that you have the ingredients for a healthy scalp and a thick full head of hair **INSIDE YOUR BODY**.

That is just **COMMON SENSE**.

Doctors and Scientists, Nutritionists and Beauty Experts have stated that without the ingredients **INSIDE** your body needed to feed the scalp and hair at the roots, the following problems may develop: A greasy, oily dandruff • Dry hair lacking shine, luster and body • The premature graying of hair • Oily hair • **SLOW** growing hair • Thin hair • and the • Falling out of hair in some cases for women as well as men.

But what are the ingredients necessary for healthy hair, skin and scalp?

We researched the latest reports of Scientists, Doctors, Nutritionists and Beauty Experts.

After we completed the research, we needed to develop a special formula combining many of the **EXPERT'S RECOMMENDATIONS**.

For this, my Company and I turned to one of America's leading Pharmaceutical Laboratories. Not for some magical cure-all but simply for a common sense, completely safe, **HIGH POTENCY SUPPLEMENT** containing **57 SPECIFIC INGREDIENTS**.

The chemists went to work on scientifically formulating this **HIGH POTENCY SUPPLEMENT**. They found ways of putting together ingredients recommended by many Doctors, Nutritionists and Beauty Experts as a **MUST** for healthy **HAIR, SKIN and SCALP**. They were able to put it all into a completely safe, easy to take and convenient **TABLET** form.

Among the **57 INGREDIENTS** contained in the tablets are **PROTEIN-AMINO ACIDS, 12 VITAMINS, LIPOTROPIC FACTORS, 10 MINERALS, NUTRIENTS FOR THE SKIN, R.N.A.,** plus **IRON** and **BIOTIN**. **BIOTIN** is a nutrient recently reported to aid many with scalp problems, thinning hair, as well as balding.

Finally, after years of waiting, the tablets were completed.

Next came the big test.

**WOULD THE TABLETS REALLY WORK FOR ME?**

My recent photograph speaks for itself. **BUT WHAT ABOUT OTHERS?** By 1978 the results were in.

In the past year our **PLAN** tablets have become one of the world's largest selling tablets designed for **HAIR and SKIN**.

Since they are so safe that they do not require a prescription, our tablets have been ordered and **even more important RE-ORDERED** by the **MILLIONS** of satisfied customers from every state in the United States as well as from Canada, Australia, Europe, Asia and even Africa. Finally, after years of research and development I had the tablets that gave me the necessary ingredients for healthy **SCALP, SKIN and HAIR** that really worked, but I didn't stop there.



I wanted something that would help to **MEND** and **PROTECT** the hair that I had left on my head as I realized it takes time for new hair to grow out. That brought me to the second part of our **GUARANTEED HAIR PLAN**.

**[PART 2]** We again went to the laboratory and research. We found that scientific tests have shown that when a substance known as **PANTHENOL** was regularly shampooed into the hair, it moisturized the hair, conditioned it and **REPAIRED DAMAGED HAIR SHAFTS**. But that wasn't all - further test results showed that it also **FLUFFED UP** hair and actually **MADE IT THICKER**.

This was the answer we had been looking for. Getting fantastic results and **THICKER** hair by simply shampooing liquid **PANTHENOL** into the hair.

No waiting for months and years.

At last, the laboratory gave me a shampoo-in sample with another ingredient called **P.A.B.A.** added to the **PANTHENOL** to further protect the old hair.

I personally tested the **PANTHENOL** and **P.A.B.A.** on my own hair.

The very first day I used it I found it to be the most **FANTASTIC** hair conditioner I have ever used.

My hair was **IMMEDIATELY** healthier looking, **FLUFFIER** and **THICKER**. **HOWEVER**, I didn't stop the test there. I went to friends and relatives and asked them to try it. Next, I went to the experts and the public. I asked hair dressers in Beauty Salons to test our Hair Conditioner themselves.

When the reports came in, they were all raving about their fantastic results. They wanted to know where they could buy more. They said it left their hair **Healthier Looking, Fluffier and THICKER**.

By combining these two great products, the first for **SCALP, SKIN and HAIR CARE FROM WITHIN**. The second, A **LIQUID CONDITIONER** that **MOISTURIZES, CONDITIONS** and **THICKENS HAIR** for **IMMEDIATE RESULTS FROM WITHOUT**.

I had finally found a **COMPLETE SOLUTION** to my hair problems.

Having found what I believe to be the **very best HAIR CARE PLAN** in the world and being the President of a Company, I decided it was just good business sense to make this plan available to everyone. So... We named it **G.H.P.** which stands for **GUARANTEED HAIR PLAN**.

**Why Guaranteed Hair Plan?**

Because our Company **GUARANTEES** the following:

After taking the tablets and shampooing in the **PANTHENOL, P.A.B.A.** hair conditioner for two weeks, **Trying it - Testing it - Comparing it to any and all other HAIR CARE PRODUCTS** in the **WORLD**, regardless of their price, \$50-\$75 - or even \$100.

If you don't agree that our **GUARANTEED HAIR PLAN** is the **VERY BEST** and most sensible hair plan available anywhere, return the bottles within 30 days of purchase and you will receive your money back. **NO QUESTIONS ASKED**. In other words you **MUST** be satisfied. It **MUST** work for you **WITHOUT EXCEPTIONS**, Male or Female, Young or Old, or it costs you nothing.

**What could be fairer?**

Would you like a naturally healthier looking, more manageable, fuller, thicker head of hair? Order now and discover for yourself why so many say that: For Problem Hair - **THE GUARANTEED HAIR PLAN IS THE VERY BEST!**

## — NOW FOR THE BEST PART —

**BOTH** the tablets containing expert's recommended ingredients for **HEALTHY** good looking **SKIN, SCALP and HAIR**, as well as the concentrated, long lasting **PANTHENOL & P.A.B.A. CONDITIONER** for **FULLER, FLUFFIER, THICKER HAIR** is now available by mail order. **BOTH** for **ONLY \$19.95**, plus postage and handling. To order, send your check or money order for only \$19.95 plus \$1.40 for postage and **RUSH** handling to: **G.H.P., Department VS34 P.O. Box 1048, Manchester, N.H. 03101**. Foreign orders send U.S. funds only and add \$1.00.

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# Wrestler

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COVER PHOTOS BY BILL APTER & JIM CALDWELL





# OFFICIAL WRESTLING RATINGS

## WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION

Champion: BOB BACKLUND

- 1—KEN PATERA
- 2—BOBBY DUNCUM
- 3—PAT PATTERSON
- 4—IVAN PUTSKI
- 5—SWEDE HANSON
- 6—HULK HOGAN
- 7—TED DIBIASE
- 8—TITO SANTANA
- 9—LARRY ZBYSZKO
- 10—HUSSEIN ARAB

## AMERICAN WRESTLING ASSOCIATION

Champion: NICK BOCKWINKEL

- 1—DINO BRAVO
- 2—GREG GAGNE
- 3—VERNE GAGNE
- 4—MAD DOG VACHON
- 5—BILLY ROBINSON
- 6—JERRY LAWLER
- 7—SUPER DESTROYER II
- 8—LARRY HENNIG
- 9—BILL DUNDEE
- 10—STEVE OLSONOWSKI

## MOST POPULAR

- 1—ANDRE THE GIANT
- 2—DUSTY RHODES
- 3—IVAN PUTSKI
- 4—MR. WRESTLING II
- 5—RICK STEAMBOAT
- 6—WAHOO McDANIEL
- 7—JACK BRISCO
- 8—STEVE KEIRN
- 9—TOMMY RICH
- 10—KEVIN VON ERICH



IVAN PUTSKI



DINO BRAVO



ANDRE THE GIANT



GIANT BABA

## NATIONAL WRESTLING ALLIANCE

Champion: HARLEY RACE

- 1—DUSTY RHODES
- 2—JIMMY SNUKA
- 3—GIANT BABA
- 4—MR. WRESTLING II
- 5—TOMMY RICH
- 6—RIC FLAIR
- 7—JIM BRUNZELL
- 8—BRUISER BRODIE
- 9—KEVIN VON ERICH
- 10—TERRY FUNK

## TAG TEAMS

- 1—IVAN PUTSKI & TITO SANTANA
- 2—RICK STEAMBOAT & JAY YOUNGBLOOD
- 3—VERNE GAGNE & MAD DOG VACHON
- 4—BRYAN ST. JOHN & STANLEY LANE
- 5—PAUL JONES & BARON VON RASCHKE
- 6—THE SAMOANS
- 7—BRUISER BRODIE & KERRY VON ERICH
- 8—AUSTIN IDOL & MASKED SUPERSTAR
- 9—MR. HITO & MR. SAKURADA
- 10—THE AVENGER & THE ASSASSIN

## MOST HATED

- 1—JIMMY SNUKA
- 2—TERRY FUNK
- 3—GREG VALENTINE
- 4—PAT PATTERSON
- 5—KEN PATERA
- 6—KILLER KOX
- 7—HARLEY RACE
- 8—ERNIE LADD
- 9—SUPER DESTROYER II
- 10—JOHN STUDD



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my method of DYNAMIC-TENSION starts giving you results you can feel and your friends will notice. Big, useful muscles. Gain pounds in weight where needed.

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## HOW I CHANGED FROM A 97 LB. WEAKLING TO A REAL MAN.

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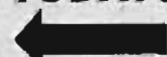
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# YOU ASKED US

**Here's the monthly feature which YOU get to write! It's your chance to have a top wrestler answer YOUR question! Only the best questions will be answered—so put on your thinking caps and come up with some good ones! Address your questions—and who you would like to have answer them—to: YOU ASKED US, c/o THE WRESTLER, PO Box 48, Rockville Centre, N.Y. 11571. Questions will be answered only in this column and at our discretion!**



Troy Rigg's favorite, Mongolian Stomper (above), says that Nick Bockwinkel is afraid to give him a title shot. Bockwinkel (battling Peter Maivia below) has lost several non-title matches and has been purposely disqualifying himself lately to retain his championship.



Bockwinkel and the only obstacle is Bockwinkel's fear of him. The Stomper thanks his fans and promises Bockwinkel will soon be finished.

\*\*\*

**Q:** Does Harley Race feel he is at the peak of his career now that he's regained the NWA title for the third time?—Tony Capua, Longwood, Fla.

**A:** "Tony, winning back the title from Rhodes was the most important match in my life," Race replied. "For years, I've had to endure questions from fools who don't know nothin' about wrestling who wondered how good I was. Well, let them think again. By beatin' Rhodes, I showed I'm the best there ever was. I did some-thin' no one has ever done before. Sure, I'm at the peak. Better believe that."

\*\*\*

**Q:** Could you please ask my favorite, the Mongolian Stomper, if he'll ever seriously challenge for Nick Bockwinkel's AWA title?—Troy Rigg, Albion, Ill.

**A:** The Mongolian Stomper tells us he's itching for a shot at



In response to Tony Capua of Longwood, Florida, NWA champion Harley Race states that he is at the peak of his career, and his title victory over Dusty Rhodes proves he is the best ever.

**Q:** Is it true Dick the Bruiser is barred from wrestling in New York State?—Steven Yaccarino, Staten Island, N.Y.

**A:** Several years ago, Bruiser's wrestling license was revoked for "unspeakable violence and brutality," according to a WWF official. Since then, Bruiser has appealed for reinstatement of his license. His case is expected to be decided soon.

*(Continued on page 46)*



# The Peaceful Man's Way to Win Fights

## 'If You Can't Avoid Trouble, At Least Avoid Losing'

I used to turn the other cheek. Ignore insults. Walk away from a fight. Out of fear.

All too often, my enemy looked too powerful to even try to beat. He won—hands down.

These days, I walk away for a different reason. I'm no longer afraid for myself. Now, I'm afraid for the other guy.

If he doesn't watch his step or his mouth, I can put him in the hospital for a couple of months. Or worse.

Since I developed my Peaceful Man's Way, trouble-makers seem to stay clear of me. Somehow, they sense that I can take them. If I want to.

It's as though I had an invisible bodyguard at my side 24-hours-a-day. Ready to spring to my defense instantly. To finish off anyone foolish enough to start up.

Yet, I never had a boxing lesson. I exercise much too little. And I am not a "muscle-man."

I go anywhere with confidence. Not looking for a fight, mind you. But perfectly able to handle the situation if one is absolutely unavoidable.

I'm positive that the Peaceful Man's Way will do for you what it did for me. Maybe more.

So positive, in fact, that I'm willing to let you try it out for 30 days without risking a penny.

To prove that you can promptly take care of any attacker with a few unexpected fight-winning surprises.

Such as a "little-finger" trick that cuts a tough wise-acre down to size.

A move with your wrist that makes him scream in excruciating pain.

Another with your foot that delivers eye-watering misery.

A devilish hand-clasp that breaks a choking strangle-hold. Topped by a follow-up that's a knock-out.

Just because you're peaceful doesn't mean that you have to be a victim. You may still look and act like you wouldn't hurt a fly. But heaven help the pest who mistakenly thinks you are an easy mark. A meek lamb anyone can push around with no come-back.

Instead, you turn into a tiger. Someone able to stop a mugger cold. Someone who can make a bully cry like a baby. Someone who *ends* fights the other guy begins.

I remember the last time I was forced to use the Peaceful Man's Way: This bruiser was a foot taller and fifty pounds heavier than me. A human King Kong.

I floored him in five seconds flat. He was totally stunned. I'll never forget that dazed look in his eyes as he asked himself "how?"

My wife knows how. I taught her and my kids. Child or adult, man or woman, anyone can learn how. And *should*.

You watch TV. You read the newspapers. Personal crime is our number one problem. Everyday, it's another rape, another mugging, another outrage. Don't wait until it happens to *you*.

Be prepared to save your life or prevent needless injury. With easily mastered techniques like these:

- The very first thing to do *before* a fight.
- How to overcome the *mental* block that ties your hands.
- How to stop being *polite*—and retaliate.
- How to use your feet as *deadly* weapons.
- How to throw a heavyweight for a *loop-de-loop*.
- 5 ways to *paralyze* an aggressor.
- The *secret* weapon that terrifies any opponent.

Plus dozens of ingenious "tricks" requiring no more skill than shaking hands. To keep you safe and sound no matter what. Regardless of your age, size, build, or strength.

I must warn you: Simple as they are, these methods can be *fatal*. They must be. Otherwise, they would be valueless to you when you need them the most.

Hold them for that key emergency moment when it's either you or him. Then—*wham!*

When you're out with your family or friends, it's great to know that you are *covered*. If you can't avoid trouble, at least avoid losing.

I'll be glad to send you a Review Digest of the Peaceful Man's Way to look over with no obligation whatsoever. In plain language, it reveals all the benefits and applications of my material.

In addition, the Review Digest offers you a special plan to test the Peaceful Man's Way for one whole month without risking one cent.

It could turn out to be the biggest bargain of your life. Just one use at the *right* time and you'll be miles ahead. Unscathed, with your pride intact. And alive!

For prompt shipment, simply mail the coupon with only \$1. My unconditional money-back guarantee protects your investment. Later, my Peaceful Man's Way will protect you.

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Tom Kani

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Every issue, this magazine praises the noteworthy and damns those who violate the spirit of wrestling's dignity. The praiseworthy are given a "thumbs up," the disgraceful are marked with "thumbs down." Here is this month's roll of honor and shame

# Thumbs Up



**THUMBS UP** to Bob Backlund: The young WWF champion has had to endure enormous pressure during his two-year reign. He has handled each crisis with a mature poise and country dignity. Backlund has never descended to the gutter level of his detractors.

**THUMBS DOWN** to Ken Patera: For a man who has achieved little except to earn contempt from peers and fans, Patera has a big mouth. He is a classic example of someone who talks with his lip because he can't do it with his fists.



**THUMBS DOWN** to Eddy Mansfield: Pretty boy Eddy has to learn there's more to wrestling than a handsome face and a quick smile. Evidently, Mansfield is so taken by his looks and female adoration that he's neglected his game. Mansfield has potential, but must learn to mine it.

**THUMBS UP** to Ivan Putski: Determination is Putski's middle name. Years of frustration were forgotten the night he and Tito Santana captured the WWF tag team title from the Valiant Brothers. From their initial defenses, Putski and Santana should glorify the disgraced title.



**THUMBS DOWN** to Fred Blassie: This mealy-mouthed compulsive liar has twisted one mind after the other. His hideous experiments in emotional programming threaten the very foundation of wrestling. No good has ever come to a wrestler under Blassie's management.

(Continued on page 48)

# Thumbs Down



# New from NRI! 25" color TV that DIAGONAL tunes by computer, programs an entire evening's entertainment.

**Just part of NRI's training in servicing TV, stereo systems, video tape and disc players, car and portable radios.**

Only NRI home training prepares you so thoroughly for the next great leap forward in TV and audio... digital systems. Already, top-of-the-line TVs feature digital tuning, computer programming is appearing, and new digital audio recording equipment is about to go on the market.

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# YOUR LETTERS

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## GIVE ANDRE YOUR BEST

I just finished reading "Is Andre Ready To Quit Wrestling?" in the December issue of **THE WRESTLER**. In my personal opinion, I think if the fans really love Andre, they will want him to do what he feels is best for his family and himself.



Reader Crystal Greathouse believes that if Andre the Giant's family needs him, he has no choice but to leave wrestling. She feels the fans should relieve him of the pressure of making a choice.

I think Andre should go home! His family needs him. And I think his family should come first. After all, without Andre's family we wouldn't even have Andre, period. I truly think that the fans who really care about Andre should

write and tell him just how they feel. Andre has always been here for all of us when we've really needed him. He's never let us down. Now I think it's about time we do something for Andre. If you really care about Andre and if you really love Andre, release him from some of the pressure he is feeling. Send him home with your best wishes. Andre loves all of his fans and doesn't want to hurt anyone. So please let Andre know you understand and want what's best for him. Help Andre the Giant.

**CRYSTAL GREATHOUSE**  
Wellsburg, W. Va.

## IS HANSEN CRAZY?

Is Stan Hansen crazy? In your November issue, Stan said he was afraid to use his famous Lariat hold. That's the maneuver which brought him to the top. Now that Stan is a scientific wrestler, no man in his right mind would frown upon the use of the Lariat, especially on one of Bobby Heenan's goons like Blackjack Lanza or Masked Superstar.

So come on, Stan, I guarantee your fans wouldn't desert you if you used your Lariat . . . on the right people.

**ZACHERY MARTIN**  
Philadelphia, Pa.

## A MOST DESPISED COLUMN?

Why not start a "Most Despised" column for **THE WRESTLER**? This would include the clowns who really don't belong in the Most Popular or Most Hated. I don't think Bob Backlund should be Most Hated, but his clown-like ring antics make him despised because he disgraces wrestling.

Also, how about fatso Dusty Rhodes. His body is enough to make me vomit. He is a despised person. All my friends despise him. And I think old man Verne Gagne should top the list. That old bum has been wrestling since the beginning of time, or before. Why not some new blood in wrestling like Greg Gagne or Austin Idol?

**GERRY DENIS**  
Roslyn, N.Y.

## DiBIASE DOESN'T DESERVE IT

Since when do whining losers deserve titles? In your editorial, "Ted DiBiase Must Be Given The North American Title" (February 1980), you make it seem like failure is to be rewarded. Why? DiBiase couldn't beat Patterson. DiBiase is a slob, a loser, refugee of wrestling. Like other hunks of garbage, DiBiase should be thrown away

*(Continued on page 49)*



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\$9.95  
Ugly enough to be right out of one of the latest sci-fi horror flicks. Create horrible "close encounters." Deep set eyes, protruding veins, weird ears, nose & skin.  
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# CORRESPONDENTS Reports



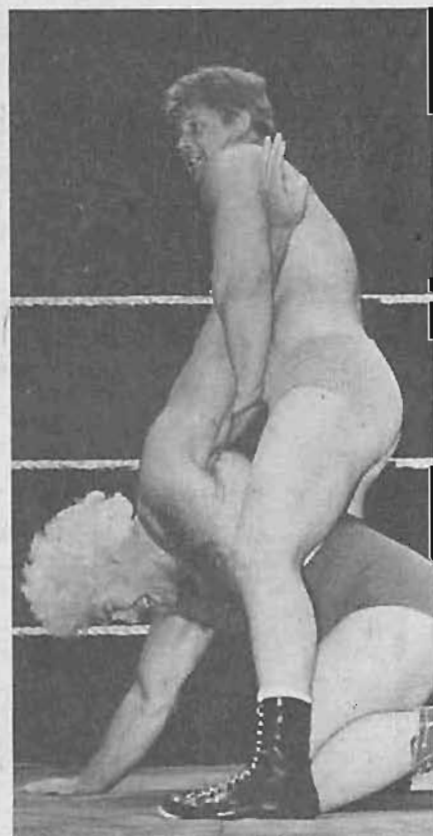
In a bout with a wild ending, Bryan St. John (above) and Stanley Lane defeated Jerry Brisco and Steve Keirn to defend their Florida tag team titles.

**LAKELAND, FLA.—Correspondent: Janie Revels**—New champions Bryan St. John and Stanley Lane defended their Florida tag team title against Jerry Brisco and Steve Keirn. Midway through the match, Brisco and Keirn held an advantage. Suddenly, Brisco and Lane collided in the center of the ring, knocking Lane out of the squared circle. St. John leaped into the ring and upended the dazed Brisco for a tainted victory.

In other action, Sweet Brown Sugar overpowered Buggy McGraw . . . Jack Brisco and Manny Fernandez got into a brawl with Terry Funk and Super Destroyer, resulting in a double disqualification.

If you would like your area of the country represented in these reports, while also being officially credited with your own by-line, send us reports of the matches you attend. You will have the thrill of seeing your name in an internationally known magazine while at the same time helping to improve the quality of wrestling in your area. So why not give it a try? You will be glad you did!

Send your reports to: Correspondent Editor, Box 48, Rockville Centre, N.Y. 11571.



WWF champion Bob Backlund (wrestling Ken Patera, above) did not wait for Jimmy Valiant (below) to remove his jacket before going on the attack in their recent match.



**PORTLAND, MAINE—Correspondent: Daniel Billings**—Screaming fans nearly witnessed Bob Backlund losing the WWF title. Jimmy Valiant's questionable tactics almost succeeded in unnerving Backlund. The match started with Valiant refusing to remove his jacket. Finally, Valiant took off his jacket and Backlund grabbed him. Holds were exchanged until Valiant was inches

away from becoming WWF champion. But Backlund drew on his inner resources, lifted Valiant high in the air and flung him to the canvas for the win.

In other matches, Ivan Putski exacted revenge over Hussein Arab . . . Swede Hanson won by disqualification over Ted DiBiase . . . Jerry Valiant won by countout over Chief Jay Strongbow . . . Tito Santana whipped Angelo NOME.

(Continued on page 50)



# "...OH MY GOSH! I GOT RIPPED OFF!"

**At least I'll bet that's what you'll think when the mailman hands you a thin envelope containing the material I'm going to sell you for \$10.00!!**

No, that's NOT a misprint. I both believe and HOPE that you'll think you've "been had" when you first lay your hands on my latest anemic-looking book (it's less than 1/4" thick, and will take only an hour or so to read).

Why? Because if you tend to judge a book by its cover — when you see this one, you'll feel cheated and say to yourself, "Whaaaaat? Ten bucks for that?!" But then, when you start reading it, see the facts, the figures — the substantiation — the proof — the unheard of guarantee — you will exclaim, "WOW! Only ten dollars for this? Why it's worth ten times that! A hundred times that — a thousand times that — ten thousand times that!" (In fact, that's exactly what I GUARANTEE it to be worth; Ten thousand times your purchase price. \$100,000.00!! — more on this later).

Perhaps you know me; I am Dean F. V. Du Vall. For the past 21 years I have devised countless sound methods for ordinary people to carve out chunks of wealth for themselves from home-operated enterprises, most of which can be started and successfully operated by mail. I've written nearly 20 self-enrichment/money-making books, some of which are practically household words: "50 Roads To Riches," "The Dynamics of Yes," "Du Vall Method For Acquiring Great Mail Order Wealth," "Blueprint For Financial Success" and many others.

I am the director emeritus of the famous World-Wide Mail Order Millionaires club, and the editor of the monthly DAX MONEY-MAKER CONFIDENTIAL NEWSLETTER, one of the most respected and honored business opportunity research periodicals in the world. All of my ventures have been highly successful (thank you!) and today I head three publishing firms.

Somewhere along the way, I literally stumbled onto a veritable goldmine-type concept that I had previously overlooked. (Probably because it's so obvious and simple). Get this: Anyone, young, old, rich, poor, smart, ignorant or what-have-you, can do it. It requires very little start-up capital, and little or nothing to keep it going — indefinitely. It involves a specific product that not only is ultimately FREE to you, but you are actually PAID to get it! Yet you stock no merchandise. (No, this is NOT a drop-ship deal of any kind.) It is a REPEAT business in a very big way. Most every customer comes back for more (I've had them BEGGING for more — with cash in hand!)

What this unique business is NOT:

- ✓ No sex or off-color stuff
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- ✓ No problems, no hassles, no unhappy customers

What it IS:

- ✓ 100% legal and ethical — indeed, PRESTIGIOUS
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- ✓ A FACTUAL means to FAST riches
- ✓ Nothing like you've EVER seen advertised anywhere before!

This is so exciting, so fantastic, that I am bursting at the seams to tell you the essence of it right here, right now — but I'll be darned if I'll give it away!

No, it'll cost you ten smackers.

And if you buy it, and are a religious person, it wouldn't surprise me if you get down on your knees and "give thanks" after you've read it through, because this could be the absolute ultimate answer to your quest for wealth, personal fulfillment and general happiness.

Sure that sounds corny — UNTIL YOU EXPERIENCE THE SENSATION!

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Dean F. V. Du Vall

And if you're wondering whether I can BACK UP that guarantee, read this excerpt from a letter I just received:

Dear Mr. Du Vall: "In its continual effort to extend coverage of the top companies in the United States, DUN & BRADSTREET is again compiling the MILLION DOLLAR DIRECTORY and our records indicate that your listing should be continued in our forthcoming edition." —W. H. Mantz, Editor

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING!

By BILL APTER

**H**ARLEY RACE'S NWA title reign was briefly interrupted for the second time this year.

While touring Japan, Race was beaten by Baba the Giant, but regained the belt in the rematch one week later. Race, of course, lost the title to Dusty Rhodes during the summer before regaining it in a rematch five days later. Race is now a four-time NWA champion, and Baba, who won the belt from Jack Brisco in December 1974 for a week, is a two-time champion.

We had our staff awaiting Race's return from Japan at St. Louis International Airport. Race refused to talk about the loss. "Why talk about Baba's victory," he said, "let's talk about history, boys. I am now champion for the fourth time in my career. That makes me greater than any active wrestler today. I am the best, and you guys better see it that way."

Harley got into a limousine and whisked away to his home in Kansas City, obviously a very content champion.

Manager Fred Blassie has unveiled his newest find to



Giant Baba is a bloody but victorious champion after beating Harley Race in Japan. Harley regained the belt days later.

Eastern wrestling fans. He is "Hulk" Hogan. Hogan, a man with the body of an experienced weightlifter, has been steam-rolling over all competition in the WWF. Blassie predicts that he has a future world champion in this man.

Tim "Mr. Wrestling" Woods says he will never don his mask again until he defeats both "Nature Boy" Buddy Rogers and Rogers' evil protege', United States heavyweight champion Jimmy Snuka. "Those two evil men sneak attacked me and put me in the

hospital for quite some time," explained the popular Woods. "I have vowed to finish them off for the good of wrestling and put an end to their treachery. Until I beat them I cannot call myself Mr. Wrestling in good conscience. So the mask goes until I complete my mission."

Georgia's one-night tournament to determine the state's new tag team champions is over. The belts were stripped from Ole Anderson and Ernie Ladd after the two refused to team with each other ever again. The new kings of Georgia tag team wrestling are Austin Idol and the Masked Superstar. An awesome combination, this duo will be difficult for any team to defeat.

Bobby Heenan has cut through some red tape and found a way to return to the AWA. As you recall, he was banned from the area for life after a scuffle with AWA President Stanley Blackburn. "I really showed them a thing or two," boasts Heenan. "I am now back at the side of the champion I created, Nick Bockwinkel. All the flunkies in

*(Continued on page 52)*



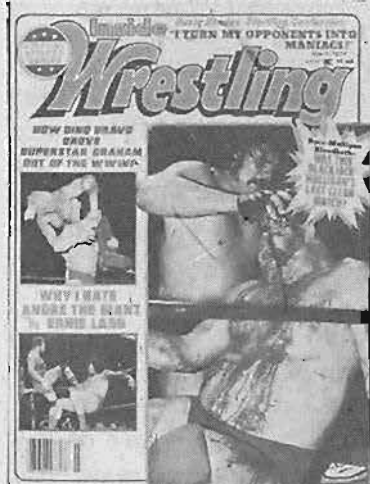
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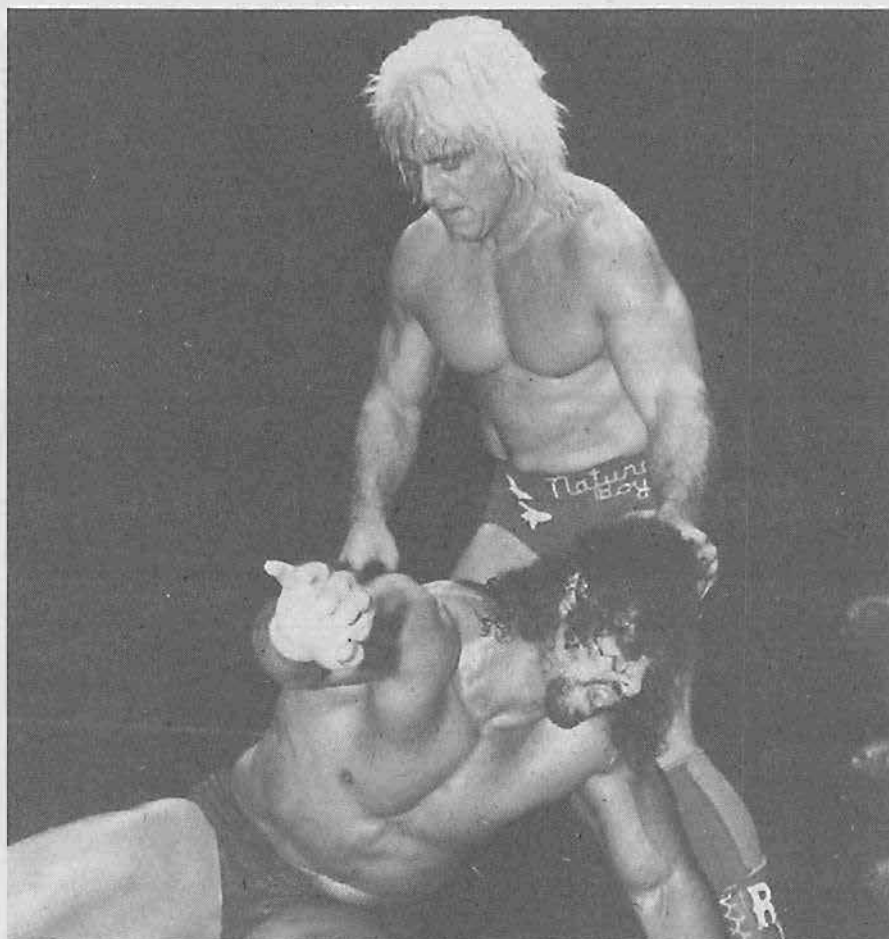
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# Q&A

Each month, **THE WRESTLER** will present a "Question and Answer" forum with an important figure in the wrestling world. It is your chance to meet wrestling's biggest stars as they answer the questions uppermost on the fans' minds



Jimmy Snuka ranks highly on Ric Flair's "most hated" list. Snuka claims to have learned his rulebreaking style by watching Flair. Flair would like to wrestle Snuka in a \$10,000 winner take all, loser leave wrestling match.

**Q:** Ric, how do you feel about Greg Valentine returning to the Mid-Atlantic area?

**A:** I'm glad to see him. Greg's a big talent and class guy, something the area lacks every time I take a night off.

**Q:** So you don't intend to wrestle Valentine?

**A:** No, why should I?

**Q:** Doesn't Valentine represent everything you now hate?

**A:** As I said, Greg has talent and I take things as they come. I hate Paul Jones or Jimmy Snuka, Baron Von Raschke, people like that. I don't hate Valentine.

**Q:** So you definitely wouldn't wrestle him?

**A:** Didn't say that. I'll take things as they come.

**Q:** We have reports . . .

**A:** Don't give me any of this journalistic jive, man. You get reports, you tell me who gave 'em to you.

**Q:** That would betray a source.

**A:** Go on, go on (sighs in disgust).

**Q:** Reports have been circulating that you're working out in the gym with Valentine.

**A:** So?

**Q:** Are you?

**A:** Yes.

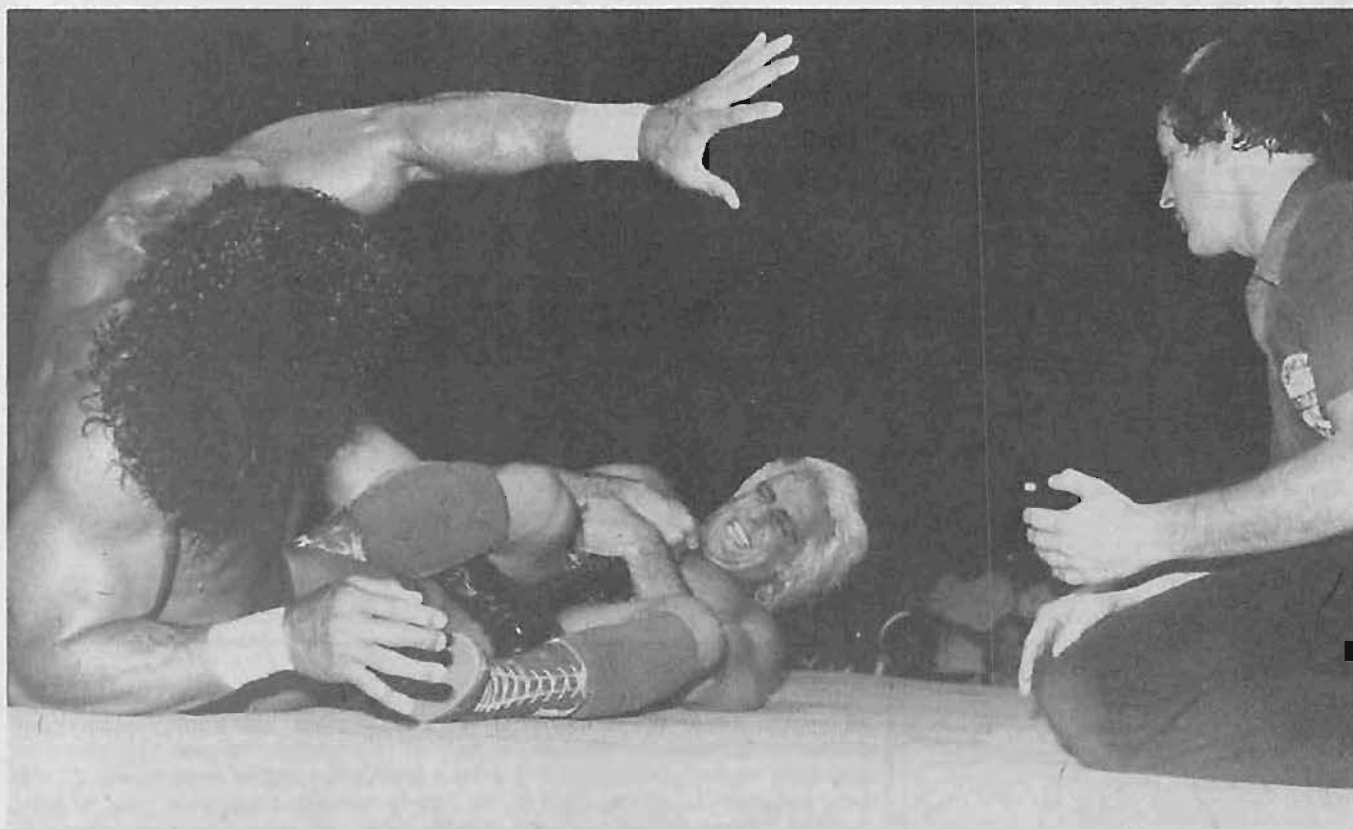
**Q:** Why are you practicing chokeholds with Greg Valentine?





## RIC FLAIR

**F**EW WRESTLING PERSONALITIES are as consistently embroiled in controversy as is Ric Flair. For years, grappling terrorism was his trademark. Flair's feuds with Rick Steamboat were legendary. Suddenly, Flair teamed with Steamboat. And Blackjack Mulligan. Fans wondered if he was sincere about adopting the scientific wrestling approach, or would revert back to barbarism at the first opportunity. That "opportunity" arrived in the person of Greg Valentine.



The referee asks Snuka if he wants to give in to the pain of Flair's figure-four leglock. Flair is a former rulebreaker and many experts feel that the return of Greg Valentine to the Mid-Atlantic is all the influence Ric needs to revert back to his old tactics.

**A:** I can practice anything I . . . Hey, who said I was doing the choldhold?

**Q:** What were you practicing with Valentine?

**A:** Different maneuvers.

**Q:** Figure-four?

**A:** A little. Greg's a master of that.

**Q:** Will you be perfecting your figure-four leglock with instruction from Valentine?

**A:** Who should I turn to, senile

**Buddy Rogers?**

**Q:** Will you use the figure-four leglock the same way Valentine does?

**A:** To win? Yes.

**Q:** I mean to cripple opponents.

**A:** Greg has never purposely hurt anyone. His stupid foes struggle and, while trying to get out of the hold, break their own legs. Hell, this is a tough sport. If a guy gets

hurt, well, he gets into wrestling knowing things like that happen. You can't ease up because some weak sisters at press tables can't stand bloodshed. You go all out to win. Greg does it and so do I.

**Q:** So you'll maintain your friendship with Valentine regardless of your different approaches in the ring?

*(Continued on page 54).*

# COLLECTOR'S CORNER

## WRESTLING MAGAZINE

It was simply titled "WRESTLING." And it was the first serious attempt to establish a magazine devoted entirely to professional wrestling which had a regular frequency and a world-wide distribution. The five issues of **WRESTLING** magazine are perhaps the most sought-after collector's back issues now made available to you.

**MARCH 1951**—Human Side, Wrestling Whirl, How to Wrestle, New Faces, Popularity Ratings, Strangler Lewis' Life, Sumo Wrestling, Yukon Eric's Life, Wrestler vs. Boxer, Strong Arms, June Byers' Life, George Hackenschmidt vs. Frank Gotch **\$30**

## BOXING & WRESTLING

After five issues, **WRESTLING** magazine changed its name to **BOXING & WRESTLING**. Continuing its high standard in wrestling, the addition of boxing stories made it one of the most popular sports magazines of the 50s. Some of the back issues listed in this ad can be obtained now by the general public for the first time in more than 25 years. As you would expect, supplies are very, very limited.



**NOV. 1951 Boxing**—John L. Sullivan, TV Favorites, Lew Jenkins, News of the Month, Joe Louis kayoes Lee Savold, How's Business, Harry Greb, Jimmy Carter Wins Lightweight Crown, Can Robinson Beat Maxim, Historic Photos, Jack Dempsey's Record, Results of the Month, Cartoon.

**Wrestling**—Superman Lou Thesz, Girl Star Nell Stewart, Ratings, The Garibaldi Clan, Bert Assirati, Greatest Matches, Gus Sonnenberg Beats Strangler Lewis **\$25**

**DECEMBER 1951 Boxing**—Maxim Beats Sailor Murphy, Gavilan Beats Billy Graham, Jim Corbett, Knockout Artists, Best Prospects, New Champion Randy Turpin, Upsets, Jersey Joe Walcott, Ratings, Marciano Challenges Walcott, Sandy Saddler (Life Story), Tex Rickard, Famous Fights of the Past, Fights of the Month  
**Wrestling**—Verne Gagne, Ratings, TV Announcer Dennis James, Sandor Szabo, Matches of the Month, Pat Peave, Sammy Berg, Mae Weston **\$25**

**JANUARY 1952 Boxing**—Pep vs. Saddler, Gans vs. Kid Lavigne, Robinson vs. Turpin, Mickey Walker, Tricksters, Tony Jamiro, Barney Ross's Record, Tex Rickard, Roland LaStarza, Leonard vs. Kilbane, Rocky Marciano, Ratings, Knockouts  
**Wrestling**—Yvon Robert, Wrestling Whirl, Sky Hi Lee, Matches of the Month, Pacific Coast Championship, George Hackenschmidt, Indian Wrestlers, Ruffy Silverstein, Ratings, London vs. Shikat **\$25**

**FEBRUARY 1952 Boxing**—Fights of the Month, Trouble with Boxing, Young Prospects, Tony Canzonieri, Bob Fitzsimmons, Rocky Graziano, Unusual Incidents, Predictions for 1952, Willie Lewis vs. Sailor Burke, Ratings (Marciano Fighter of Month), Tex Rickard Story  
**Wrestling**—Dirty Duseks, Cora Combs, Wrestling Whirl, Matches of the Month, The Original Terrible Turk, How to Improve Wrestling, Ratings **\$25**

**MARCH-APRIL 1952 Boxing**—Fights of the Month, Million Dollar Gates, Gene Tunney's Record, Heavyweights of 1952, Trouble with Boxing, Jim Jeffries, Henry Armstrong, Dumb Dan Morgan, Rocky Marciano, Jersey Joe Walcott, Tex Rickard Story, Ezzard Charles, Jimmy Carter vs. Art Aragon  
**Wrestling**—Fred Von Schacht, Frank Gotch Record, Midgets, Wrestling Whirl, Millie Stafford, Matches of the Month, Max Baer in Wrestling, Ratings, Promoter Billy Thorn of Indianapolis, Good Old Days **\$25**

**MAY 1952 Boxing**—Fights of the Month, Greatest Heavyweights, Johnny Dundee, Harry Matthews, Ratings, Benny Leonard's Record, Tex Rickard Story, Kid Gavilan, Battling Nelson vs. Ad Wolgast Classic, Tommy Burns, New N.Y. Boxing Commissioner Bob Christenberry, Bobby Dykes  
**Wrestling**—Whipper Watson, Old Times, Wrestling Whirl, Verne Gagne, Great Gama, Matches of the Month, Primo Carnera, Ratings, Strangler Lewis, Girl Wrestling in Germany **\$25**

**JUNE 1952 Boxing**—Fights of the Month, Gil Turner, Max Schmeling, Jack Johnson, Ratings, Stillman's Gym, Chico Vejar, Flyweights and Bantamweights, Tex Rickard Story, Paddy DeMarco, Max Baer's Record  
**Wrestling**—Lord Carlton, Ratings, Mars Bennett, Human Sides, Tony Lanza, Wrestling Whirl, Good Old Days, Whipper Watson, Matches of the Month, San Francisco Promoter Joe Malcewicz **\$25**

**JULY 1952 Boxing**—Fights of the Month, Joe Baksi, Jess Willard, Manager Al Weir, Abe Attell, Danny Nardico, Fighters Are Human, Tex Rickard Story, Famous Filipinos, Norman Hayes, Ratings  
**Wrestling**—Lord Blears, My Toughest Bouts by Lou Thesz, Wrestling Whirl, Matches of the Month, Texas Rasslin', Ratings, Ivan Kamiroff, It Began With Milo, Good Old Days **\$25**

**AUGUST 1952 Boxing**—Highlights, Paddy Young, Sammy Mandell, Trainer Doc Bagler, Jack Dempsey, Keeney Teran and Gil Cadill, Tex Rickard Story, Lew Tendler, TV From Miami, From Knockdown to Victory, Ratings  
**Wrestling**—Dirty Dick Raines, Good Old Days, Whipper Watson, How Girl Wrestlers Keep Fit, Ratings, Adrian Baillargeon, Wrestling Whirl, Matches of the Month, Mighty Atlas **\$25**

**SEPTEMBER 1952 Boxing**—Highlights, Fighting Italians, George Araujo, Pancho Villa, Trainer Charlie Goldman, Willie Troy, Ratings, Boxing Confidential, Gene Tunney, Jackie Fields  
**Wrestling**—Bobby Managoff, Lou Thesz's Record, Ratings, Matches of the Month, Tim Geothagen, William Muldoon, Wrestling Whirl **\$25**

**OCTOBER 1952 Boxing**—Highlights (Walcott vs. Charles; Carter loses to Salas, etc.), Lauro Salas, Stanley Ketchel, Irish Champions, Chuck Davey, Max Schmeling, Ratings, Joe Miceli, Strange Experiences, Willie Pep tells about his loss to Sandy Saddler, Boxing Medicine Man Dr. Nardiello  
**Wrestling**—Riki Dozan, Their Hardest Battles, Matches of the Month, Ray Gunkel, Tough Turks, Wrestling Whirl, Ratings, Record of Verne Gagne **\$25**

**DECEMBER 1952 Boxing**—Rocky Marciano, Highlights: Rex Layne Beats Ezzard Charles, etc., Fighting French, Johnny Bratton, Jackie 'Kid' Berg, Boxing Humor, Tommy Garr, Comparing old and new greats, Dave Davey, Primo Carnera, Ratings, Dressing Room Drama, Dramatic Incidents  
**Wrestling**—Killer Kowalski, Record of Gene Stanley, Jack

Flanagan, Joe Louis Story, Promoter Sam Silverman, Cleveland Williams, Boxing Jinxes, Jack Delaney, Ratings, What Makes a Champion, Johnny Risko  
**Wrestling**—The Buddy Rogers Story, Fred Atkins, Wrestler vs. Boxer, Matches of the Month, Fan Clubs, Mule Kick Marlin, Wrestling Whirl, Ratings, Matt Kosternich, Rick Starr, Lou Thesz vs. Gene Stanley **\$30**

**APRIL 1953 Boxing**—Fighting Talk, Fights in Review (Billy Graham vs. Joey Giardello; Tiger Jones vs. Johnny Bratton), Pat McMurtry, Billy Miske, Ezzard Charles, Undeclared Johnny Saxton, Fidel LaBarba, Luis Firpo, Arnie Moore Wins Title at Age 36, Jimmy McLarnin, Jack Dillon  
**Wrestling**—Marvin Mercer, Matches of the Month, Record of Yukon Eric, Killer Kowalski vs. Yukon Eric, Man Mountain Dean, Ratings, Wrestling Whirl, Fan Clubs, Promoter Al Mayer, Trading Holds **\$30**

**MAY 1953 Boxing**—Fighting Talk, Fights in Review (Danny Nardico upsets Jake LaMotta, Rocky Castellani beats Tiger Jones), Kid Gavilan kayoes Chuck Davey to retain crown, Roland LaStarza tops Rex Layne, The Dundee Brothers, Baltimore's Great Fighters, Saga of John Morrissey, Tommy Loughran, Ratings, Middleweight Muddle, Charlie White  
**Wrestling**—Fred Curry, Elvira Snodgrass, Matches of the Month, Great Togo, Ruffy Silverstein, Trading Holds, Record of Buddy Rogers, Ratings, Wrestling Whirl, Fan Clubs **\$30**

**OCTOBER 1953 Boxing**—Fighting Talk, Fights of the Month, Dan Bucceroni, Promoter Lew Raymond, Arthur Persley, Light Heavyweight History, Best Heavyweight Bets, Jackie 'Kid' Berg upsets Tony Canzonieri, Floyd Patterson, Charlie 'Phil' Rosenberg, Your Boxing I.Q., Ratings  
**Wrestling**—Leo Nomellini, Johnny Barend, Ratings, Record of Sonny Myers, Violet Viann, Matches of the Month, Frank Gotch, Wrestling Whirl, Fan Clubs, Trading Holds **\$30**

**DECEMBER 1953 Boxing**—Fighting Talk, Marciano kayoes Roland LaStarza (title), Fights of the Month, Referee's Problem, Tony Galento and Manager Joe Jacobs, Philadelphia History, Five Best Lightweight Bets, Middleweight History, Battling Siki, Primo Carnera Kills Ernie Schaaf, Jimmy Stattery, Ratings  
**Wrestling**—Lucky Simonovich, Ratings, Mighty Atlas, Reggie Lisowski, Yvon Robert, Matches of the Month, Fan Clubs, Wrestling Whirl **\$30**

Some of the back issues in this ad have not been offered for sale for more than 25 years. All of these extremely rare magazines are from the personal collection of Stanley Weston, owner of the world's largest collection of wrestling memorabilia. This is indeed a once in a lifetime opportunity for the true collector to finally own these highly treasured but until now elusive editions. Obviously, the supplies of these issues are very limited, and they will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. It is for that reason we urge you to list substitute choices when you order. This will avoid time wasted writing back and forth should a particular issue be sold out. The prices quoted are based on the rarity of the issue and the amount of available copies. For fastest service, payment should be made by money order or certified check. While cash will be accepted, we cannot assume responsibility when it is sent through the mails. All sales are final and no exchanges will be made.

O'Reilly, Ratings, June Byers, Wrestling Whirl, Matches of the Month, Tough Way To Make A Living, Hollywood Promoter Hugh Nichols **\$30**

**JANUARY 1953 Boxing**—Marciano wins title from Walcott, Highlights of the Month, The Negro in Boxing, Tommy Collins, Max Baer Story, Ted 'Kid' Lewis, Johnny Gonzales, Managers' Mistakes, Ratings, Kid Herman, Sparring Partners, Gerald Dryer, Human Punching Bags  
**Wrestling**—Fred Atkins, Rocca's Record, Disgusted Fans, Ratings, Lou Thesz, Wrestling Whirl, Ronnie Etchison, Matches of the Month, Al "Dragon" Tucker **\$40**

**MARCH 1953 Boxing**—Fighting Talk, Highlights (Ezzard Charles Beats Cesar Brion, Johnny Bratton over Joe Miceli), New Jersey Champions in Every Division, Glen

**FEBRUARY 1954 Boxing**—Fighting Talk, Fights of the Month, Nino Valdez, Mickey Walker, Hein Ten Hoff, Featherweight History, Boxing Quiz, Luther McCarty, Joe Louis vs. Bob Pastor, Jack Johnson vs. Tommy Burns, Stanley Ketchel, Harry Greb, Ratings  
**Ratings**—Bill Melby, Primo Carnera, Matches of the Month, Raphael Haipern—The Wrestling Rabbi, Ratings, Len Hughes, Fan Clubs, Leo Nomellini, Wrestling Whirl, Remember When **\$35**

**MARCH 1954 Boxing**—Fighting Talk, Fights of the Month, 'Red Top' Davis, Bantamweight History, Commissioner Frank Wiener, Earl Wals, Ratings, Power of Punch, Bat Battalino vs. Kid Chocolate, Amateurs, Your Boxing I.Q., Ace Hudkins  
**Wrestling**—Dennis Clary, Sandor Kovacs, Ratings, Dory



Funk Sr., Matches of Month, Gossip, Wrestling Whirl, Hans Schmidt, Trading Holds, Record of Lord Blears \$35

**MAY 1954 Boxing**—Fighting Talk, Former Champions Speak Out, Fights of Month, Rocky Castillo, Joey Giambra, Stanley Ketchel, Tommy Burns, Billy Peacock, Henry Armstrong Wins Title From Petey Sarron, Training, Boxing Quiz, Jimmy Wilde, Ratings  
**Wrestling**—Don Leo Jonathan, Eric Pederson, Trading Holds, Top Money Makers, Tarzan White, Matches of Month, Duke Keomaka, Fan Clubs, Remember When \$35

**JULY 1954 Boxing**—Eddie Borden Editorial, Fighting Talk, Fights of Month, French Invasion, Archie Moore Can Beat Marciano, Bat Masterson, Gil Turner, Harlem Tommy Murphy, Holly Mims, Vince Dundee vs. Len Harvey, Vince Martinez, Your Boxing I.Q., Ratings, Bud Taylor  
**Wrestling**—Tor Yamato, The Larsen Brothers, New Jersey Stars, Ida Mae Martinez, Matches of Month, Frank Jaras, Gossip, Fan Clubs, Wrestling Whirl \$35

**AUGUST 1954 Boxing**—Eddie Borden Editorial, Fighting Talk, Marciano vs. Charles Fight, Fight of Month, Manager Al Weil, Britain's John Sullivan, Al Davis, "Hurricane" Jackson, Ratings, Battling Nelson's Life, Vince Martinez, Benny Leonard vs. Jimmy McLarnin, Carmine Fiore, Joe Lynch, Quiz  
**Wrestling**—Ray Eckert, Ratings, "Treacherous" Phillips, June Byers, Matches of Month, Gypsy Joe, Gossip, Trading Holds \$35

**OCTOBER 1954 Boxing**—Eddie Borden Editorial, Fighting Talk, Fights of Month, Joey Giardello Says He'll Kayo Bobo Olson, Harry Greb's Life, Cisco Andrade, Weighing Ins, Tiberio Mitri Kayoes Randy Turpin, Jack Dempsey vs. Bill Brennan, Walter Cartier, TV is Killing Boxing, Quiz, Ratings, Lew Tindler  
**Wrestling**—Bobo Brazil, Gloria Barratini, Results of Month, Al Kashey, Wrestling Whirl, Rocky Columbo, Light Heavyweight Champs, Fan Clubs, Trading Holds \$35

**NOVEMBER 1954 Boxing**—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Can Marciano Be Beaten? Sam Langford's Life, Al Andrews, Managers Art Winch & Sam Pian, Billy Lauderdale, Max Schmeling vs. Harry Thomas, Carmelo Costa, Quiz, Ratings, Promoter Norm Rothschild, Stanley Ketchel vs. Jack O'Brien, Maxie Rosenbloom  
**Wrestling**—Neil Stewart, Baron Leone, Canadian Champs, Enrique Torres, Matches of Month, Art Neilson, Wrestling Whirl, Dick Raines-Abe Kashey Feud, Gossip \$55

**DECEMBER 1954 Boxing**—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Matches of Month, Cisco Andrade, Ezzard Charles writes about Marciano, Bare Knuckle Fighters, Tony DeMarco, Jimmy Braddock, Maxie Rosenbloom's Life, Paul Andrews, Tony Galento vs. Lou Nova, Benny Leonard, Quiz, Dempsey vs. Fred Fulton, Quiz  
**Wrestling**—Bob Orton, Matches of Month, Cowboy Carlson, Mars Bennett, California Champs, Al Costello, Wrestling Whirl, Gossip, Fan Clubs \$25

**FEBRUARY 1955 Boxing**—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Nino Valdez Says "I'll Beat Marciano," Billy Petrolle's Life, Carmen Basilio Challenges Johnny Saxton, Bare Knuckle Fighters, Lou Stifman, Jim Corbett vs. Joe Choyinski, Jack Delany, Jack Johnson Compared to Modern Fighters, Why Black Fighters Are Tops, Quiz, Ratings, Jimmy McLarnin  
**Wrestling**—Billy Varga, Ratings, Violet Viann, Verne Gagne, Speaks Out, Matches of Month, Sonny Myers, Wrestling Whirl, Gossip, How To Start A Fan Club \$25

**MARCH 1955 Boxing**—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Kid Gavilan, Cisco Andrade, Eugene Ciqui, Ratings, Writer Dan Parker, Best Heavyweight Of All, Charley Powell, Young Griffo, Kid McCoy vs. Tony Sharkey, Willie Ritchie, Quiz, Pedro Montanez  
**Wrestling**—Gorgeous George, Matches of Month, Jack Witzig, Ike Eakins, Texas Tough Guys, Little Black Dynamite, Wrestling Whirl, Fan Clubs \$25

**APRIL 1955 Boxing**—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Archie Moore Blasts Marciano, Robert Cohen, Joe Choyinski's Life, Strike By Managers Guild, "Boardwalk" Billy Smith, Ad Wolgast vs. Joe Rivers, Fake Fights, St. Nick's Arena, TV Fights of 1954, Paul Berlenbach, Quiz, Ratings \$25

**MAY 1955 Boxing**—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Jimmy Carter, Trainer Whitey Bimstein's Secrets, Pancho Villa's Life, Frankie Ryff, Ray Robinson's Comeback, Les Darcy, Charley Norkus, Max Baer Kayoes Max Schmeling, Bob Fitzsimmons, Quiz, Ratings, Barney Ross  
**Wrestling**—Primo Carnera, Roy McClarity, Matches of Month, Southwest Champs, Great Scott, Killer Kowalski Strength Secrets, Wrestling Whirl, Fan Clubs, Gossip, Full Color Pin Up of Buddy Rogers \$20

**JUNE 1955 Boxing**—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Eduardo Lausse, Tony Canzoneri's Life, Tiger Jones and Bobby Jones, How Marciano is Managed, Lou Brouillard's Life, Bob Baker, Matchmaker Teddy Brenner, Ten Deadliest Punches, Tommy Ryan vs. Sandow, Ruby Goldstein, Ratings, Quiz  
**Wrestling**—Yukon Eric, Pacific Coast Powerhouses, Billy Goetz, Wrestling Whirl, Manuel Cortez, Matches of Month, Bob Geigel, Fan Clubs, Full Color Pinup of Billy Varga \$25

**JULY 1955 Boxing**—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Rocky Marciano Crushes Don Cockell, Fights of Month, Chico Vejar, Tony Canzoneri's Life (conclusion), Carmen Basilio describes his war with Tony DeMarco, Fight Nite At St. Nick's, Jimmy Soo, Fantasy Fight with Joe Walcott, Ludwig Lightburn, Benny Leonard vs. Ever Hammer, Philadelphia Jack O'Brien, Ratings, Quiz  
**Wrestling**—Tiger Joe Marsh, Matches of Month, Timmy Geohagen, TV Stars, Yukon Eric Tells How To Build Muscles, Was Henri DeGiane a Nazi? Wrestling Whirl, Fan Clubs, Full Color Pinup of Frankie Tafaber \$25

**AUGUST 1955 Boxing**—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Floyd Patterson, Tony DeMarco, Boxing's Mouthpiece, Mickey Walker, Joe Rowan, Fritz Zivic batters Henry Armstrong, Fighting Irish, Joey Lopes, Sam Langford vs. Stanley Ketchel, Quiz, Luis Firpo, Ratings  
**Wrestling**—"Legs" Langevin, Yukon Eric, Matches of Month, Promoter Eddie Quinn, Most Dangerous Holds, Joe Cassius, Wrestling Whirl, Gossip, Full Color Pin Up Of Leo Nomellini \$25

**SEPTEMBER 1955 Boxing**—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Rocky Castellani, Promoter Jim Norris, Fight Afternoon, Rudy Garcia, Abe Attell, Billy Graham Quits, Terry McGovern vs. Pedler Palmer, Pat McMurtry, Al Singer, Willie Jackson, Ratings, Quiz  
**Wrestling**—Leo Nomellini, Do Black Wrestlers Get Fair Shake? Matches of Month, Crazy Kalmikoffs, Hans Schnabel, Wrestling Whirl, Al & Tiny Mills, Gossip, Wrestling Stinks! Full Color Pin Up of Big Bill Miller \$25

**OCTOBER 1955 Boxing**—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, The Real Marciano, Frankie Carbo, Carmen Basilio, John L. Sullivan vs. Charley Mitchell, Carmelo Costa, Jack Dempsey (Part 1), Paddy Young, Archie Moore, Joe Benjamin, Ratings, Quiz  
**Wrestling**—Hans Herman, Matches of Month, Strangler Lewis, One World's Title! Sky Hi Lee, Wrestling Whirl, Kamikaze Kinji, Hans Schmidt, Full Color Pin Up of Lord Blears \$25

**NOVEMBER 1955 Boxing**—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Marciano Kayoes Archie Moore, Fights of Month, Willie Pastrano, What Made Dempsey A Killer? Bud Smith, Yama Bahama, Joe Gans vs. Rufe Turner, Strategy, Tony Puleo, Great Trainers, Ratings, Johnny Dundee, Johnny Kilbane, Quiz  
**Wrestling**—Riki Dozan, Matches of Month, Don Arnold, Colorful Characters, Hindu Wrestlers, Chris Tolos, Malcolm Brenner, Full Color Pin Up of Pat O'Connor \$25

**DECEMBER 1955 Boxing**—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Vince Martinez, Commissioner Julie Holland, Georges Carpentier's Life, Ray Layne, Matchmaker Teddy Brenner, Ten Greatest of All Time, "Hurricane" Jackson, Your Boxing I.Q. Ratings, Jack Johnson Double Cross, Tommy Gibbons  
**Wrestling**—Larry Moquin, Matches of Month, Red Berry Farmer Burns, Ratings, Paul Baillargeon, Wrestling Whirl, Lou Thesz, Gossip \$30

**JANUARY 1956 Boxing**—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Joey Giambra upsets Bobo Olson, Joe Lynch, Ray Drake, Mystery of Joe Walcott, Solved, Training Camps, Jimmy Slattery, Chris Christensen, Bare Knuckle Brawl-Tom Johnson vs. Isaac Perrins, Petey Sarron, Charley White, Ratings, Quiz  
**Wrestling**—Why Women Wrestle, Wrestling Whirl, Bill Fletcher, Ivan Padubny, Bearded Wrestlers, Matches of Month, Art Michalek, Gossip, Fan Clubs \$25

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**WRESTLING REVUE (1959-1964)** is thought to be the finest series of wrestling magazines ever published. These beautiful editions (all edited and published by Stanley Weston) set a standard by which all of today's wrestling magazines are judged. The magnificent back issues in this ad, many of which contain spectacular full-color inserts, have been unavailable to the public for more than 10 years. Supplies of these collector's treasures are very limited.



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greatest portrait of a wrestler ever taken, in full color. Buddy Rogers, champion at that time, is the subject. \$20

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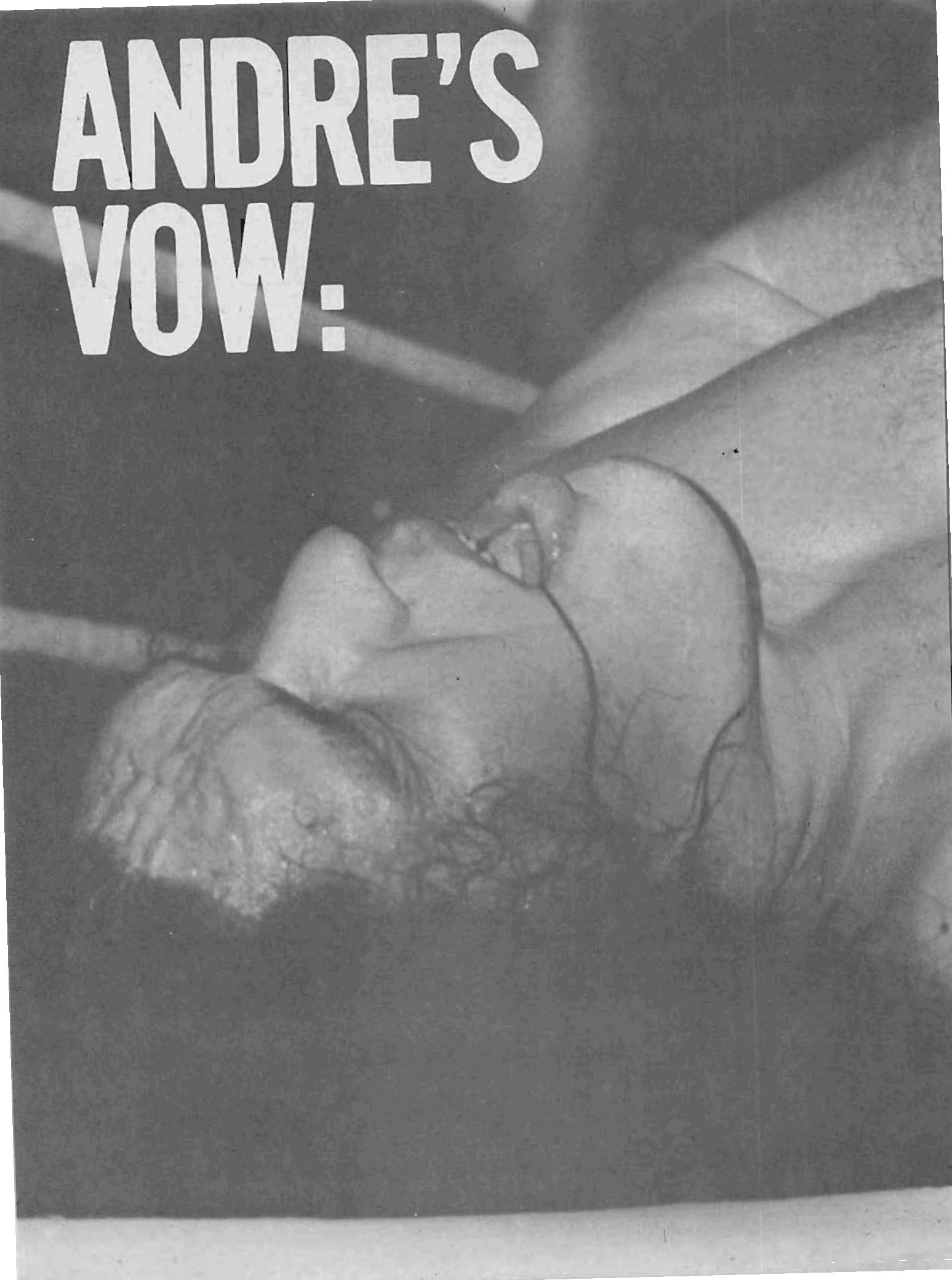
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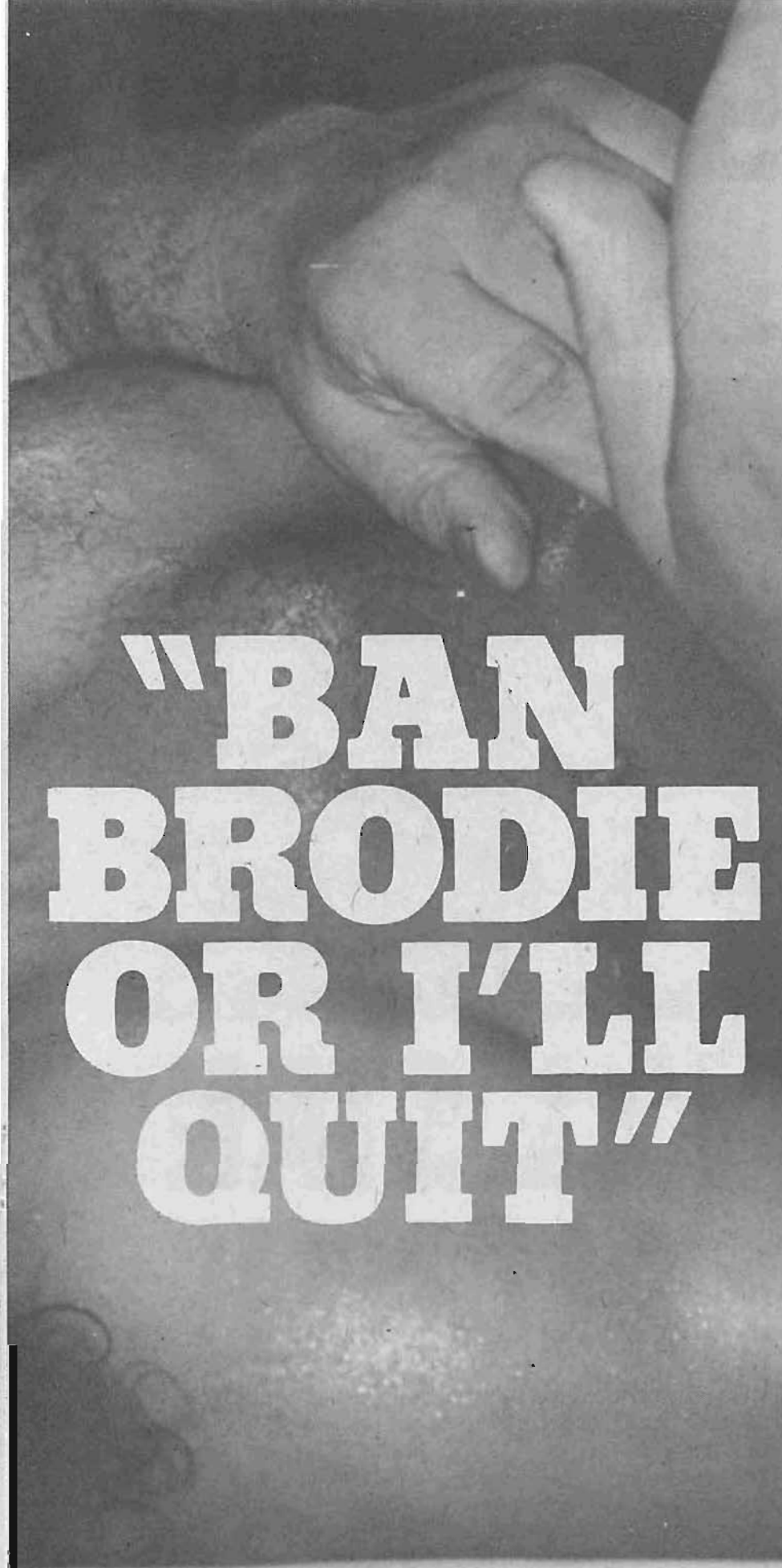
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# ANDRE'S VOW:







# "BAN BRODIE OR I'LL QUIT"

PHOTOS BY ROGER DEEM

**E**VERYONE ADMITS IT is a disgrace. Everyone blames someone else. Andre the Giant hurts too much to care.

The facts are simple:

Bruiser Brodie entered the ring with a bandage wrapped around his right hand. His opponent, Andre, demanded the bandage be checked, as it bulged suspiciously, apparently concealing a steal bar. The referee ignored Andre's pleas. The officials sitting ringside ignored Andre's pleas. The match wasn't three minutes old when Brodie smashed Andre in the side of the head. Andre went down.

Later, it would be discovered Andre had a concussion. A lesser man would have stayed on the canvas and accepted defeat. Andre is driven by a courage few men can

---

**It takes a lot for Andre the Giant to lose his temper. A humble and decent man, Andre has swallowed more than most men and has always come back with a smile. Not this time. Bruiser Brodie has rubbed Andre raw and the Giant is growling**

---

understand. His head throbbing, his body weak, his legs wobbly, Andre somehow managed to struggle back. Brodie, looking as if a ghost was attacking him, stood stunned. After all, a human being is knocked unconscious from a loaded punch.

Before Brodie could recover his senses, Andre was upon him. The Giant knew he had enough strength for maybe two minutes more. He used those precious

*(Continued on page 56)*

**B**LACKJACK MULLIGAN IS used to fighting alone. As a kid growing up on the wrong side of the tracks, Mulligan had to scrap and claw for every tiny advantage.

"Nothin' comes easy to those who don't go out and grab it," Mulligan often says.

Recently, Mulligan demonstrated courageous character in turning his back on rule-breaking and adopting the principles of scientific wrestling. Many scoffed and doubted his commitment. Yet Mulligan's unblemished bravery has glorified all of wrestling. He believes in scientific wrestling. And he's willing to fight to the very end to defend those beliefs.

Mulligan may have to fight all alone. In recent months, the Mid-Atlantic area has been the scene of horrific speculation. Ric Flair is reportedly ready to turn bad guy and team with Greg Valentine. Rick Steamboat has imposed a news blackout on future plans. Jimmy Snuka has joined Buddy Rogers' death squad with others possibly following.

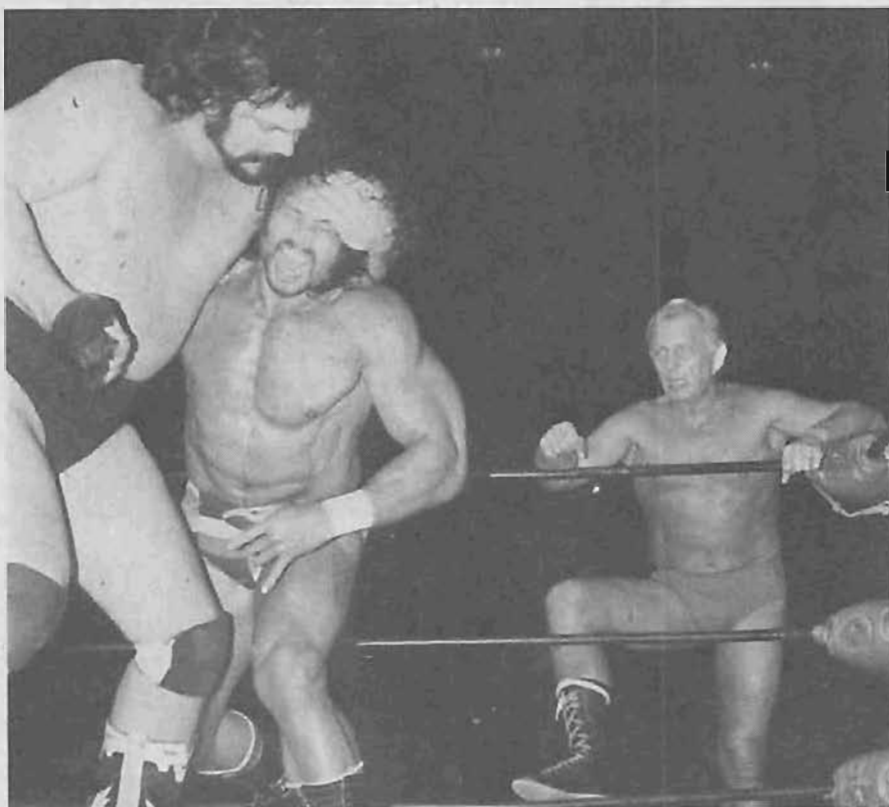
That leaves Mulligan and . . .

"Yeah, I got worried about good guys goin' bad," said Blackjack. "I know what it's like to be on both sides of the fence. I know how it is to break rules and get pleasure from hurtin' your fellow man.

"But I also know the delight of bein' nice, of followin' the rules and showing respect to your fellow man. I know how hard it is to stay good. You need dedication. Some people just don't have what it takes.

"Heck, I can't worry about everyone else. I mean, I have to wrestle my way. Anytime someone comes to me and asks for advice or guidance, I'm happy to offer it," said Mulligan. "But if everyone turns bad and it's Mulligan against the whole

# BLACKJACK MULLIGAN:



## "I'LL STAND ALONE!"

darn Mid-Atlantic area, well," Mulligan said, shrugging. "What can I do?"

This simple courage capable of erupting into impassioned violence is best demonstrated in a recent match Mulligan had against Snuka and Rogers. S.D.

Jones was Mulligan's partner, but he was injured early in the bout.

"A cheat shot," said Mulligan.

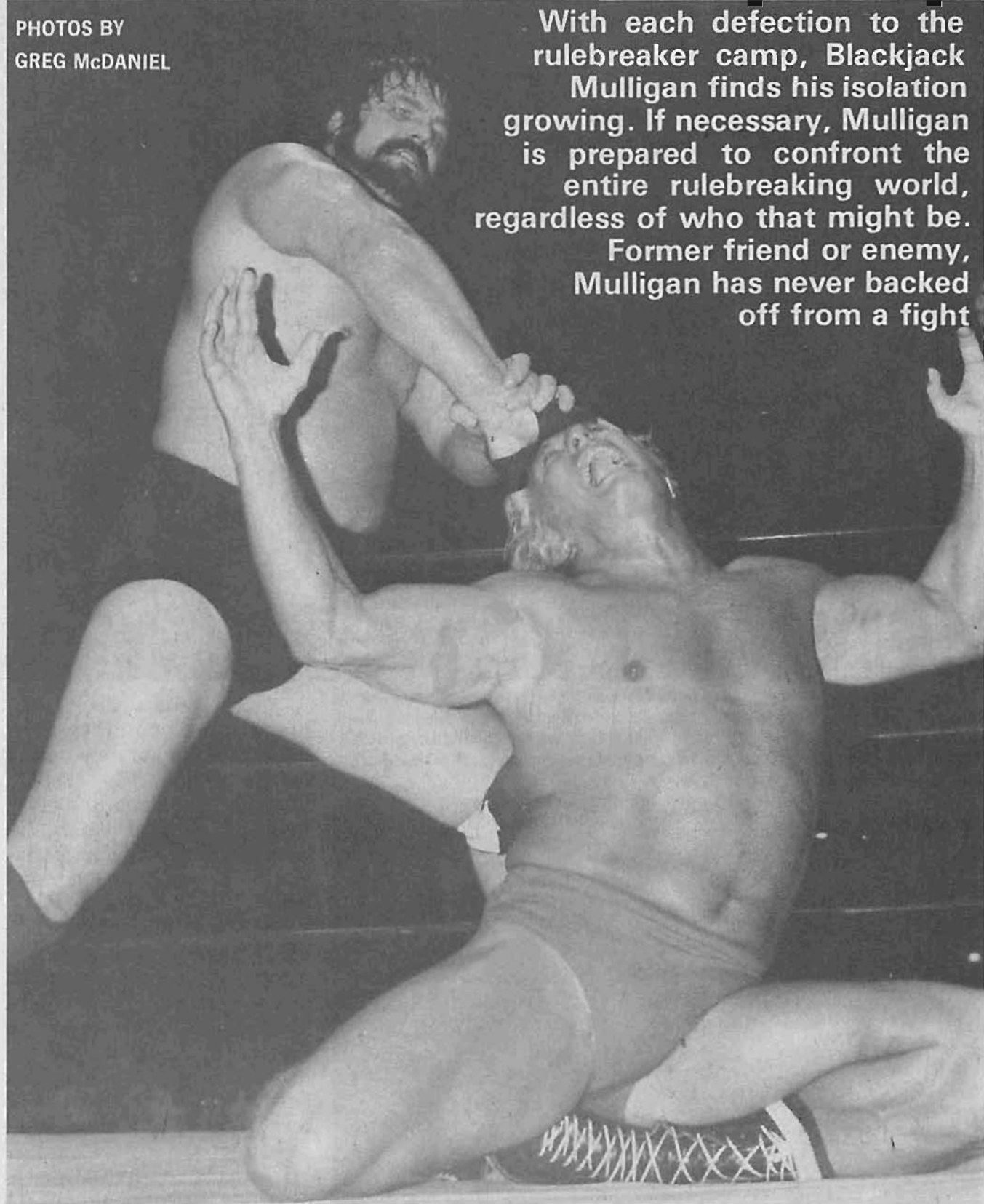
Others may have asked for the match to be stopped. Not Mulligan.

"I had a job to do and I was



PHOTOS BY  
GREG McDANIEL

With each defection to the rulebreaker camp, Blackjack Mulligan finds his isolation growing. If necessary, Mulligan is prepared to confront the entire rulebreaking world, regardless of who that might be. Former friend or enemy, Mulligan has never backed off from a fight



not gonna stop myself from doin' that job, no matter how dirty it got," said Blackjack.

So Mulligan took a deep breath and went to work on Snuka and Rogers.

"I know how punks like them operate," Mulligan said, smiling

coldly. "I know all their dirty tricks. I used a few of them in my time.

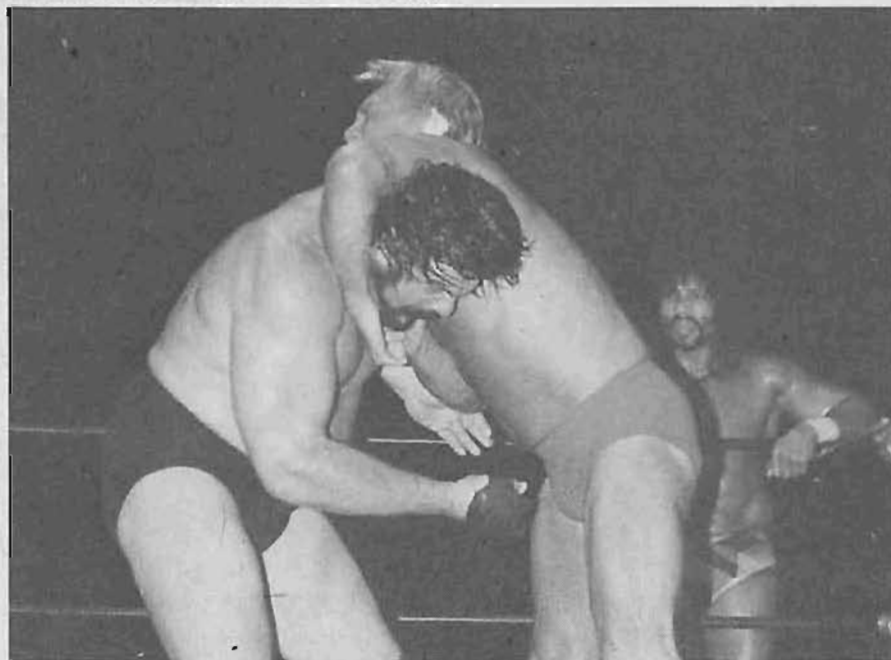
"I like bein' put to the test, ah, I don't know, when I'm faced with a tough situation and I manage to overcome that, I feel good about myself. This was a

tough jam and I wanted to see how I'd do," Mulligan said.

Pretty well. Mulligan's tenacity proved too much for his rulebreaking foes. In desperation, they introduced foreign objects and were disqualified. You'd think two on



After S.D. Jones was severely injured, Blackjack Mulligan was forced to face Jimmy Snuka and Buddy Rogers by himself. Above: Before the bout, Mulligan defends himself with a metal post outside the ring. At that point, S.D. Jones was still fit to help. Below: Snuka remains on the ring apron while Rogers applies a chokehold. Snuka and Rogers double-teamed Mulligan most of the way.



one would have the advantage. Or do they?

"Two thugs never have the good on one honest, skilled man," said Mulligan. "You gotta

remember, Snuka and Rogers are cowards, deep down. They're afraid of fighting fairly 'cause they know they don't have the guts or talent.

"Yeah, I was once afraid. I didn't have confidence in myself and I didn't know how I'd do in a fair fight. The best thing that ever happened to me was turning into a scientific wrestler, both in my profession and as a man," Mulligan said softly.

The sternest test conceivably may arise in the next few months. If Valentine succeeds in re-corrupting Flair and temptation entices Steamboat toward rulebreaking, Mulligan may be the last scientific wrestler left in the Mid-Atlantic area with the capacity to stop total catastrophe.

"That's a nightmare, everyone desertin' except me and maybe Jay Youngblood," Mulligan said thoughtfully. "I'd have no choice. I have to defend what I believe in. I knew it wouldn't be easy. But what can I do, stick my head in the sand?"

"If I have no choice, I'll stand alone." □



# BOBBY HEENAN'S FIENDISH PLAN TO RETURN TO THE AWA

A LARGE, MULTI-COLORED map was spread over Bobby Heenan's huge, oak desk. Red crayon markings clearly defined the territory under AWA jurisdiction. Next to the map lay the order banning Bobby Heenan from managing in the AWA. The word "managing" was circled in black ink.

"Doesn't say I can't wrestle, does it?" said Heenan, smiling coldly.

Indianapolis is one of those cities that hovers on the edge of the AWA. Sometimes it is subject to AWA regulations. And sometimes it drifts beyond.

"This match, I wasn't wrestling in Indianapolis," said Heenan, his hand rubbing against Minneapolis,



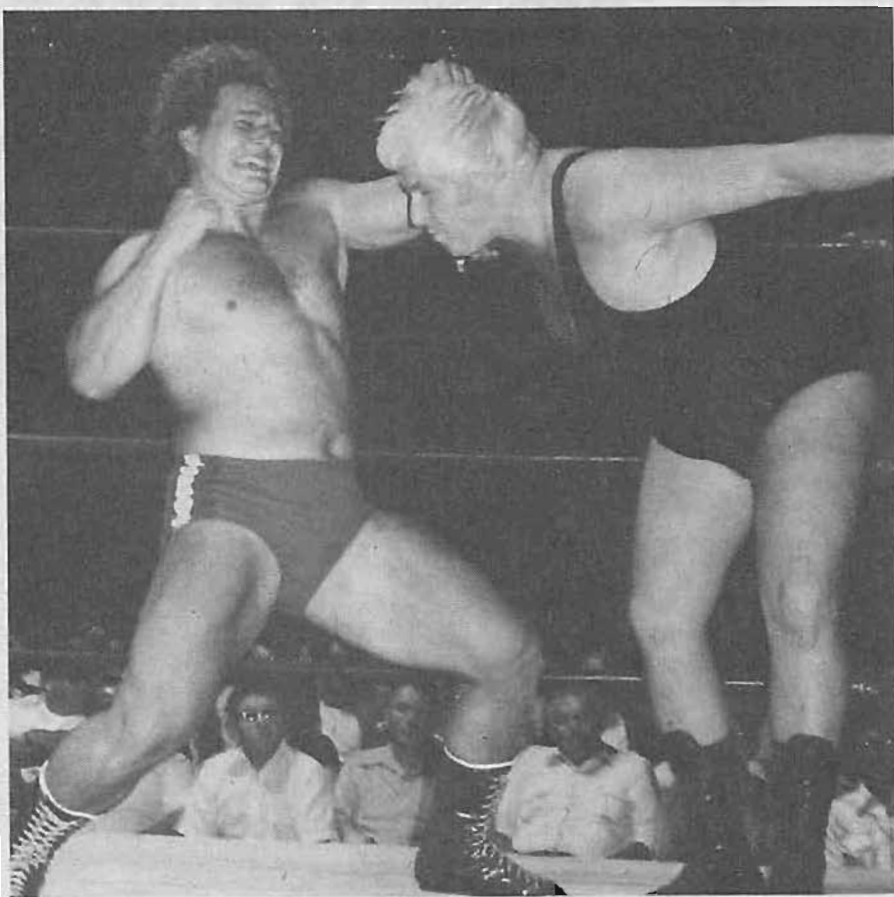
PHOTOS BY JEFF COHEN

sliding over Denver and slithering toward Texas. The phrase "next time" hung ominously over the cruel features gashed by a thin smile. The face is recognizable to everyone who follows wrestling. He is Bobby Heenan, manager. Or should it read, Bobby Heenan, wrestler?

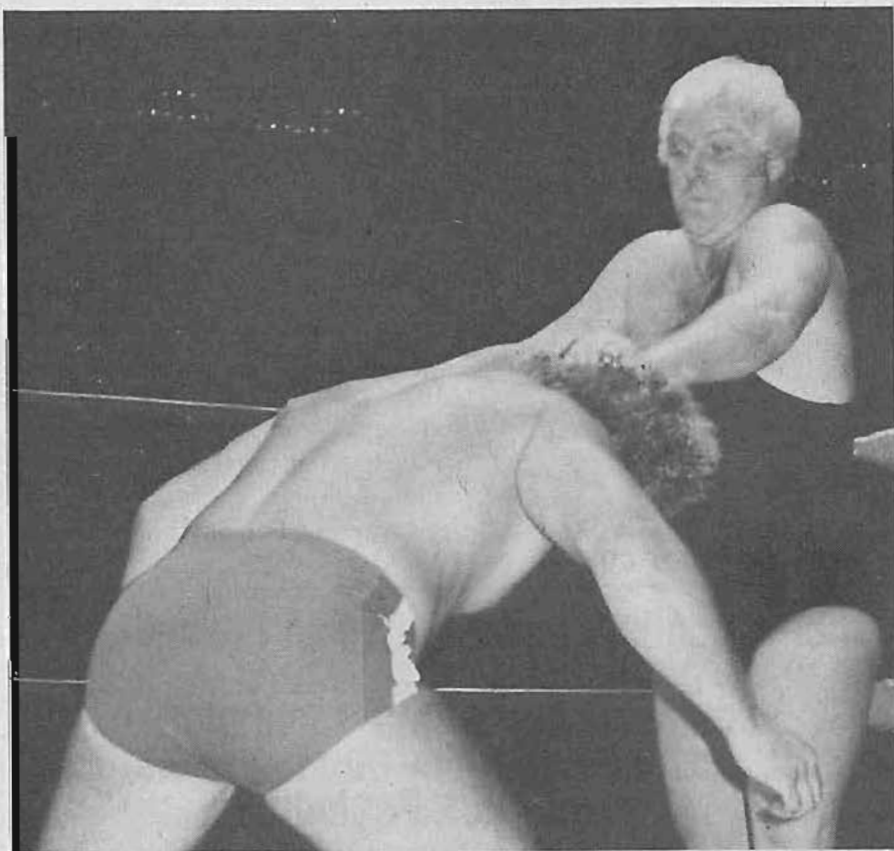
"I like to keep in shape," said Heenan. "A body like mine, honed to perfection, needs proper exercise. I keep my mind active making sure my wrestlers keep their titles, but trying to out-fox Georgia scientific wrestlers isn't much stimulation," Heenan said, sighing.

"Anytime I do anything, hell, if I

**Bobby Heenan has another diabolical plan to dirty all the rules of wrestling. Now Heenan is contemplating a return to the AWA—as a wrestler! If Heenan deserts his "friends" in Georgia, he can have only one objective in mind: the AWA championship, currently held by friend Nick Bockwinkel**



Bobby Heenan was suspended from the AWA for allegedly attacking its president, Stanley Blackburn. Since that time, he has managed in the Georgia area. Heenan shocked the wrestling world, however, when he appeared in Indianapolis, on the outskirts of the AWA, as a wrestler. Bobby battles Spike Huber (above and below).



sneeze, reporters and photographers are crowding around, begging for a piece of me. Hey, I know I'm famous and my private life isn't my own, but not everything I do has to be shrouded in a conspiracy. Soon as I wrestle, people think I'm coming back to the AWA. Who needs those bums?"

Three factors would seem to mitigate against Heenan's return to the AWA. One is the suspension he received for assaulting AWA president Stanley Blackburn. However, a source within the alliance legal department insists that suspension *may* not apply to wrestling.

"I haven't studied it yet," said the source. "But I think if Heenan wanted to come back only as a wrestler, he might have a good case in court."

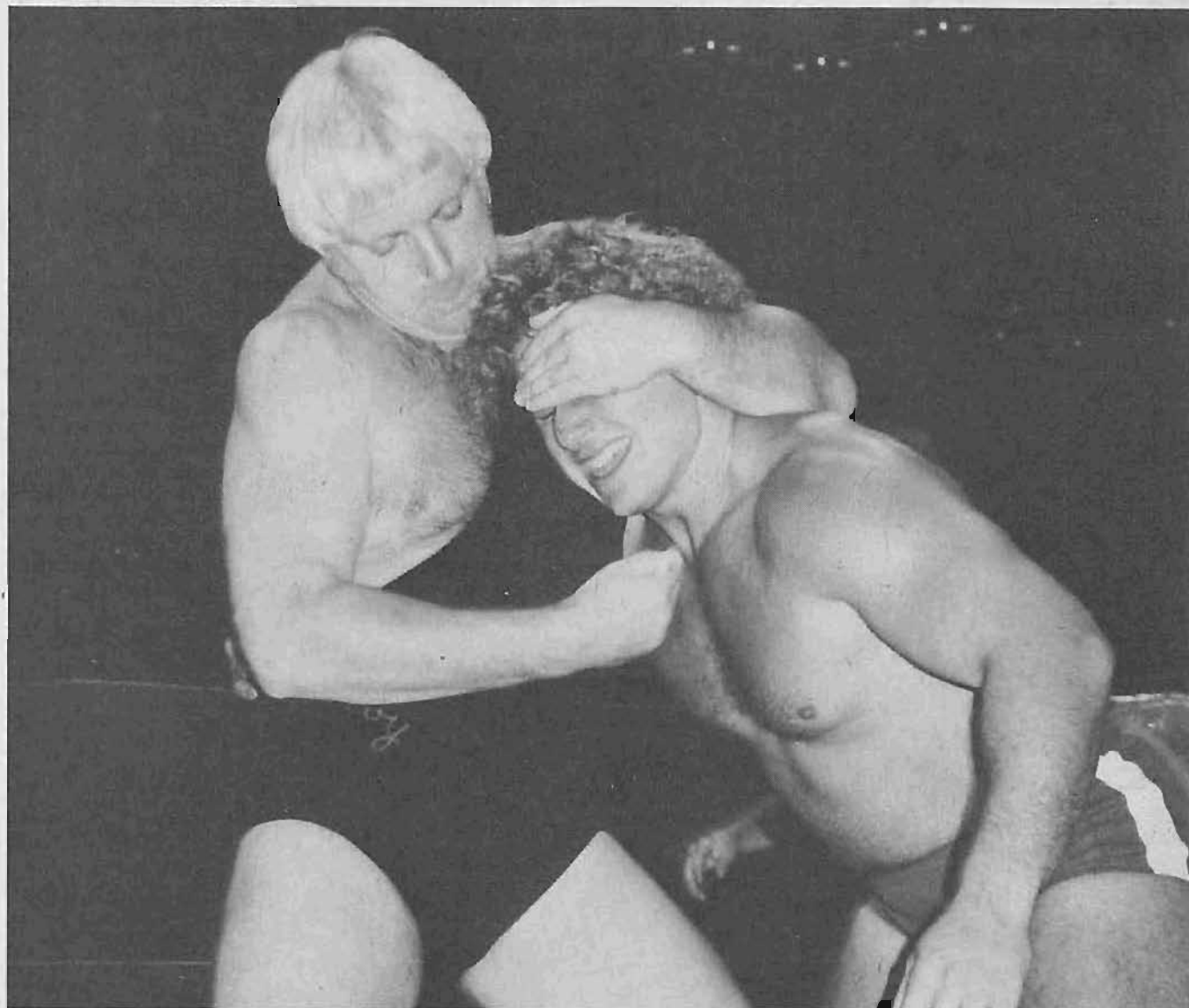
Whether Heenan would come back depends on what he could accomplish in the AWA. Current champion Nick Bockwinkel was Heenan's top wrestler. Their friendship is still active. Or is it?

Frequently, Bockwinkel is the target of Heenan's digs. Oh, they appear friendly enough. Heenan bantering about how he made Bockwinkel champion and how can Nick stay on top without them, little jabs like that. But Bockwinkel finds little humor in such remarks. Long-time champion Bockwinkel is an immensely proud man who takes great satisfaction in the way he manages his own title. He doesn't care for suggestions which indicate otherwise.

Perhaps the prospect of Heenan returning and challenging Bockwinkel for the belt is not that far-fetched.

Finally, there is the matter of Heenan's family in Georgia. Comprised of Killer Karl Kox, Masked Superstar, and Blackjack Lanza, the family has caused a bloody civil war to engulf the state. Exactly the sort of situation Heenan enjoys.





Speculation now arises that Heenan will take advantage of an apparent loophole in his suspension and return to the AWA as a wrestler. Above: Heenan, displaying the tactics that he always demanded of his own wrestlers, punches Huber in the throat. Left: Heenan books matches while managing in the Georgia area, but his desire to return to the AWA is becoming obvious.

"I love a good fight. Nothin' like having my guys go in and destroy the ugly pusses of jokers like Rich or Anderson," Heenan said.

Despite the savage siege, Heenan's family has yet to establish supremacy. Should Heenan forego future battles, some might say he is running away from a fight.

"I'm not a quitter. I'll stay and fight until every scientific wrestler is crippled and out of wrestling," said Heenan.

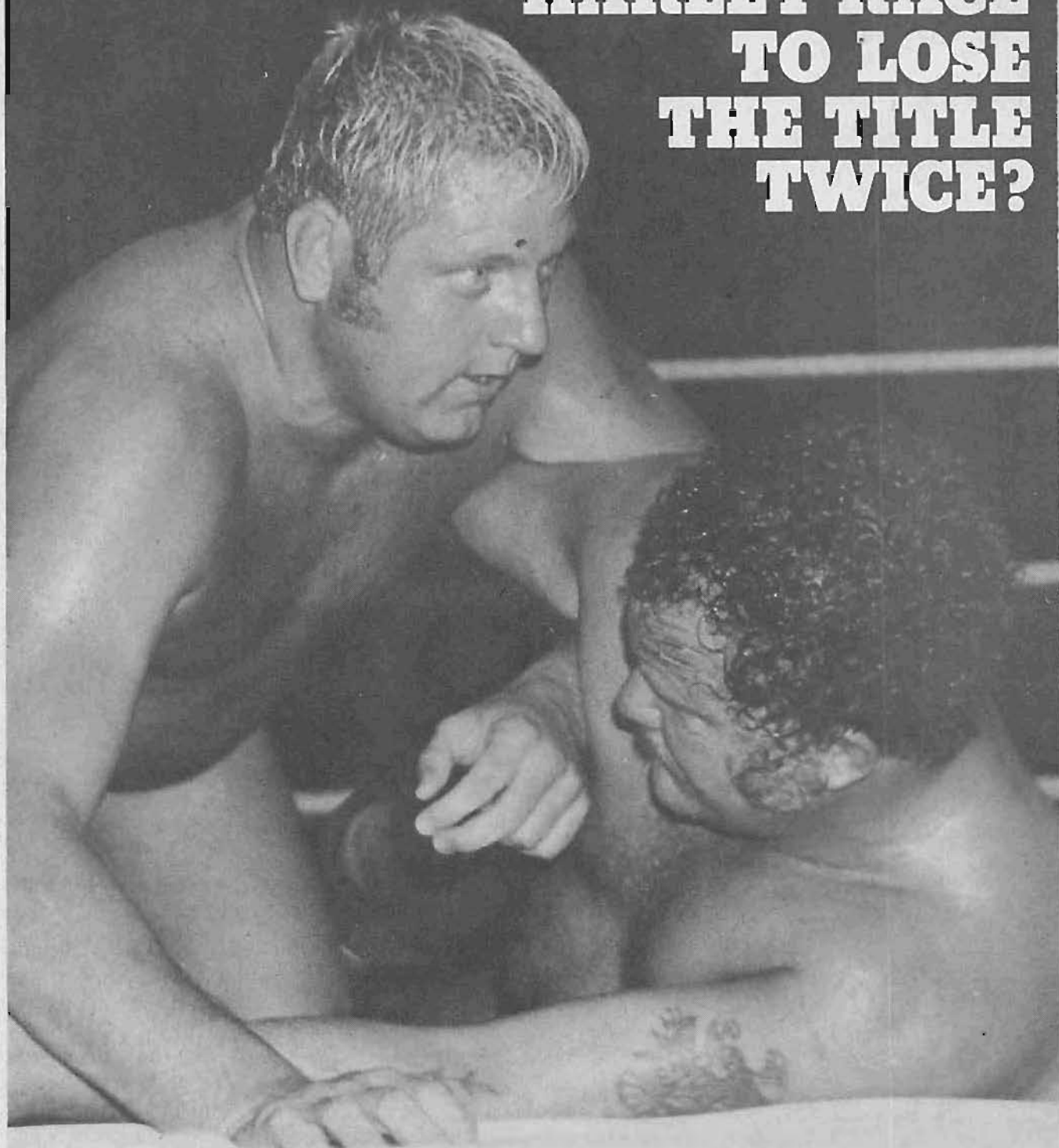
Heenan won't stay because of any sense of loyalty. Snakes think of themselves and themselves only.

If he sees any glory beyond Georgia, he won't hesitate to seize it and flush everyone behind down the wrestling bowl.

"If you're not for yourself, who will be?" Heenan asks frequently. "I have to watch my career. That's the nature of wrestling. You get no respect unless you're out for number one all the time."

Heenan's warped mind delights in bitter symbolism. Returning to the AWA, circumventing the suspension order, and challenging old pal Nick Bockwinkel for the title might fit the twists of his demented soul. □

# **DID DICK MURDOCH CAUSE HARLEY RACE TO LOSE THE TITLE TWICE?**



Is it mere coincidence, or does Dick Murdoch give Harley Race his toughest bouts? And what of the strange events which saw Race lose the NWA title twice after grueling encounters against Murdoch? Race shrugs it off. Murdoch has other ideas

PHOTOS BY ROGER DEEM

**"Y**A THINK MY old pal Dusty Rhodes would come by and thank me, wouldn't ya," thundered Dick Murdoch in the locker room. He seized a towel off the metal door and swung it over his head, his ruddy features twisting into a reddened mass of hatred.

"No, I beat Race and Rhodes don't even thank me. He's awful quick with a call when he does somethin' nice. I never thought he was rubbin' it in, but maybe he was," Murdoch's pained voice shrieked. "I beat Race and Rhodes gets the title. What the hell does Dick Murdoch get? Huh? Tell me?" Murdoch screamed to the stunned onlookers.

"And then Baba beats Race and what thanks do I get? Do I get a phone call from Japan? Do I get a telegram thankin' me for my troubles? Noooooo," Murdoch postured, hands on hips, lips quivering. "I don't even get a stinkin' bottle of saki as a thank you.

"Well, gang, you can say ya heard it straight from the horse's mouth. I am fed up with gettin' my head busted up so some two-bit prelim bums like Rhodes or Baba can win the title. I ain't gettin' my head busted up for nobody," Murdoch said, his shaking voice dipping to an anguished whisper. "When I beat Harley Race for the third straight time, the belt will be mine."

The "belt" is the NWA championp. And the third time would follow the first two, bouts which are scarred into Race's psyche.

"Forget 'em? You crazy?" Race snapped.

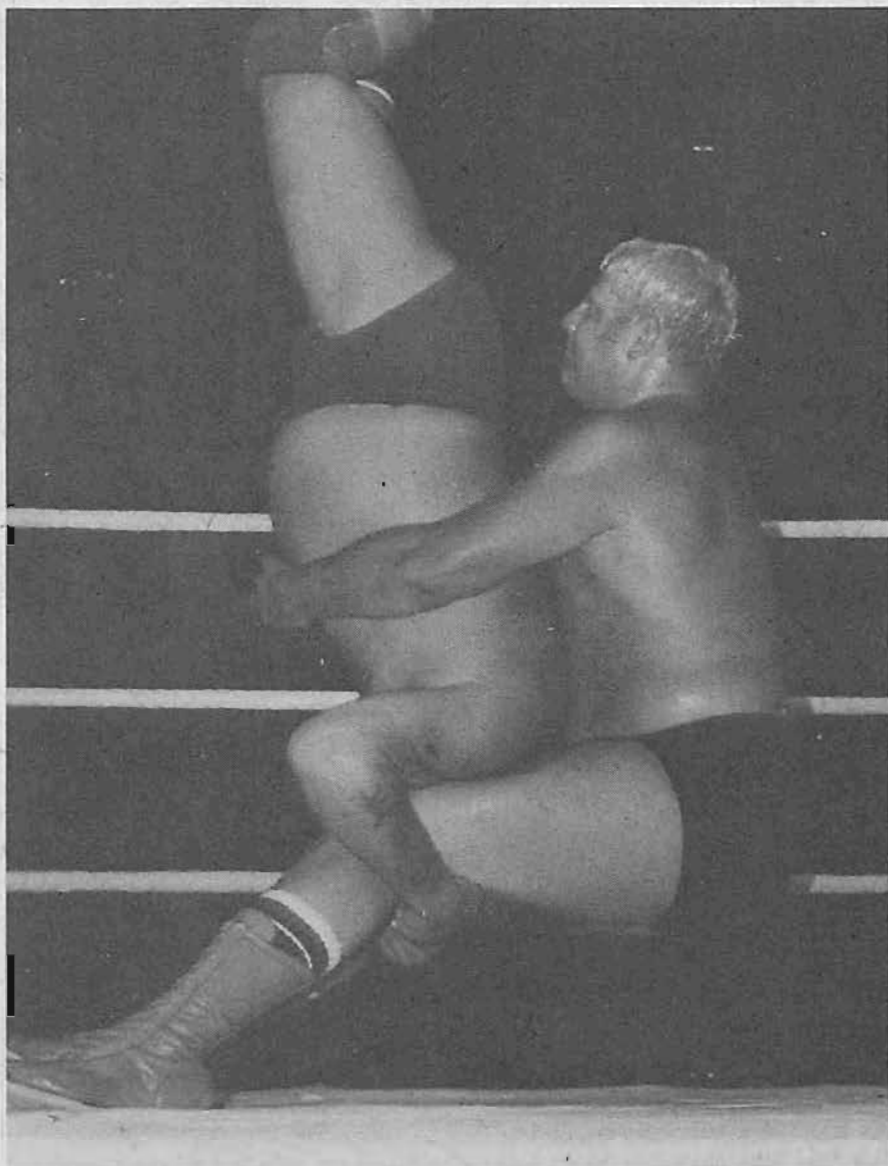
Experts questioned Race's judgement in wrestling Murdoch days before his title defense against Dusty Rhodes, that fateful night in which the belt changed hands. There was

talk that Murdoch drained Race, talk that Race was mentally and physically exhausted from the grueling bout.

That was once. But it happened again. Yes, for several days before losing the rematch, Baba the Giant was NWA champion, the second time he'd reached this dizzying grappling

does not rest upon coincidence. Something about Murdoch must unsettle Race. Not surprisingly, Race is evasive.

"Murdoch got nothin' on me. Fact is, I must let down a little when I meet that bum," said Race. "Yeah, I can see the stories now, how Harley Race is afraid of Dick Murdoch and all that



Dick "Murder" Murdoch piledrives NWA champion Harley Race into the canvas. Murdoch claims to have weakened Race before Harley's loss to Dusty Rhodes, and most recently, his loss to Baba the Giant in Japan. Dick says he is upset that Rhodes and Baba have not shown their appreciation.

pinnacle. Look who Race had wrestled just before he tackled Baba.

"Me, Dick Murdoch, I grease the skids for Race's next opponents," said Murdoch.

A sport as precise as wrestling

garbage. Let me tell you guys something straight, no squirming or anything.

"I don't defend my title with my head in the sand, understand? I'll wrestle anyone

*(Continued on page 62)*



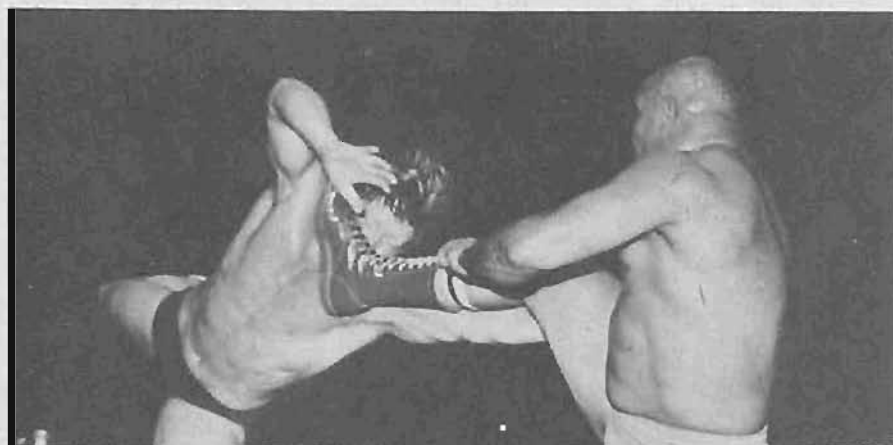
# BRUNO SAMMARTINO:



## "I KNOW THE SECRET THAT COULD END BOB BACKLUND'S REIGN!"

BY BRUNO SAMMARTINO

PHOTOS BY BILL APTER



Two-time WWF champion Bruno Sammartino claims to have found a flaw in current champion Bob Backlund's wrestling style. Backlund, while appreciative of Bruno's concern, has opted to try to diagnose and solve the problem on his own. Above: Hussein Arab lifts his loaded boot into Backlund's face.

**W**HEN THE EDITORS of this magazine asked me to write this article, at first I didn't know what to do. I don't like to say something harmful about anyone, especially when it is someone I admire as much as Bob Backlund.

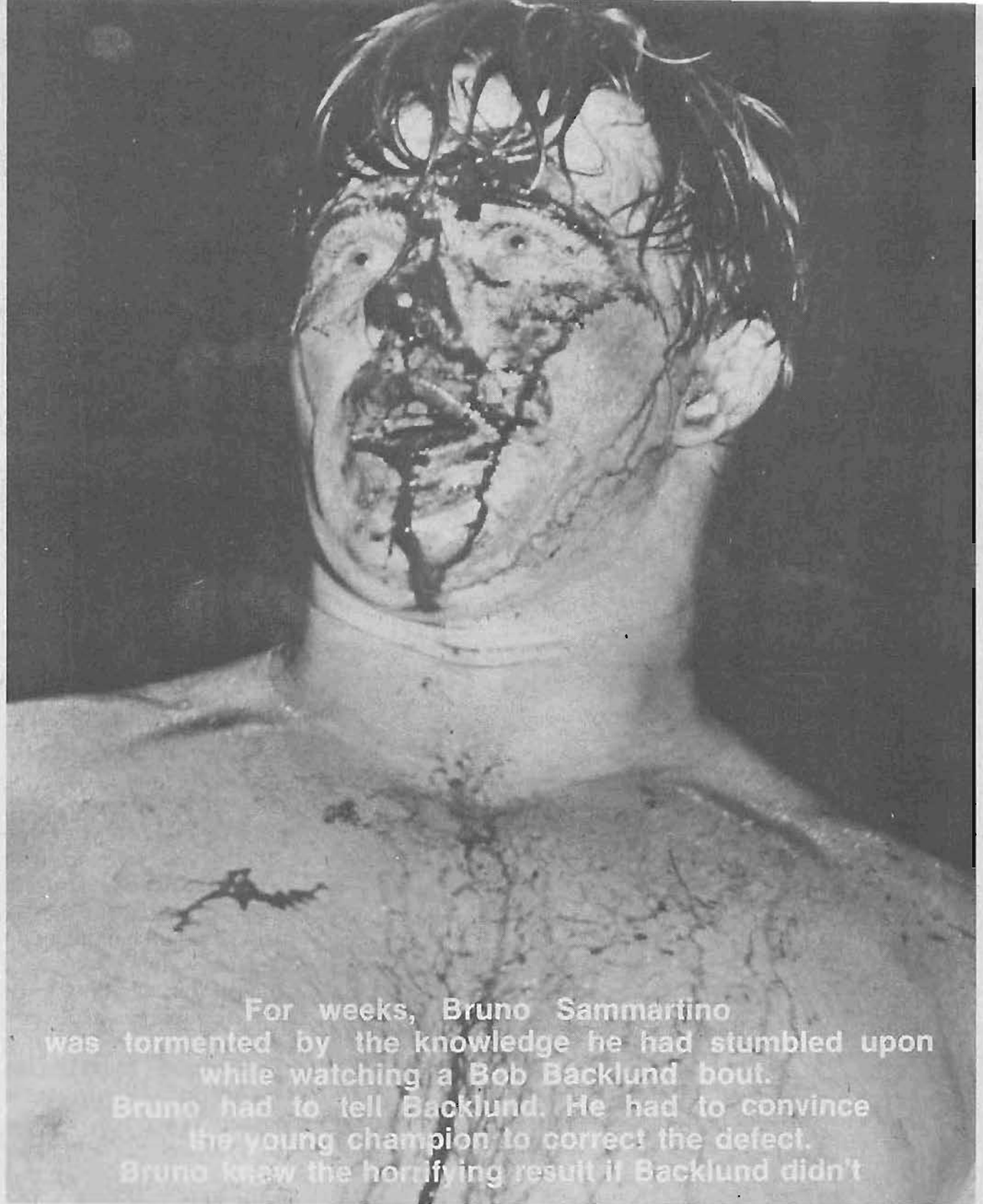
But if I see the flaw in his wrestling style, wouldn't someone else see it too? And what if that person is a creep like Lou Albano or a bum like Pat Patterson? Then what? They would not use the flaw for a story, that's for sure. It

would be lights out for Bobby then.

So I am in a delicate position. I know something that may, no, make that definitely, 100 percent sure could end Backlund's reign. What can be done about it?

Yeah, everyone must be thinking, that Sammartino, he makes a big deal out of everything. You know, I don't enjoy this. I went to Backlund and told him what I knew. You think that was enjoyable? No. Backlund was very upset. I explained what I saw and knew. I told him that his career could be over if someone who wants to cripple him got hold of this information.

Bob was very appreciative and very nice. He said



For weeks, Bruno Sammartino was tormented by the knowledge he had stumbled upon while watching a Bob Backlund bout. Bruno had to tell Backlund. He had to convince the young champion to correct the defect. Bruno knew the horrifying result if Backlund didn't

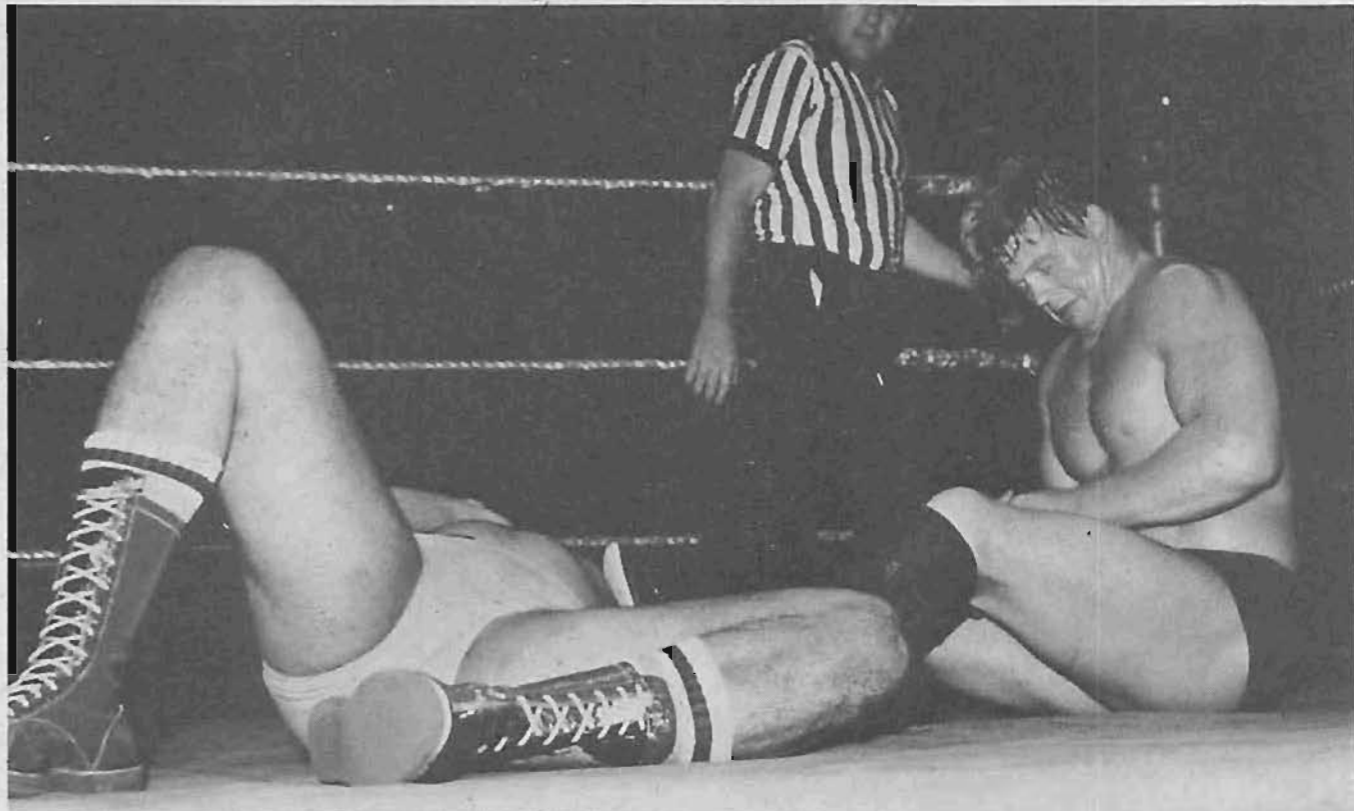
someone else might have let him just get hurt, but not Sammartino. I expected Bob to ask for help in correcting the flaw. He didn't. I was stunned.

I asked Bob why he didn't want help. I tell you, this

reaction made me proud to be a wrestler. Backlund is very independent. While he listens to and accepts advice from those of us who have been around, he wants to do things himself.

Backlund said he wants to

learn on his own. He wants to solve this dilemma. He said he can never become great unless he does things his way. While he thanked me and thanked me, Backlund wouldn't consider taking my help. Bob said, "Bruno, you



Backlund tries to stretch Hussein's arm out of joint (above). Hussein ties Backlund in a combination abdominal stretch and headlock (left).

have done enough just by telling me all this."

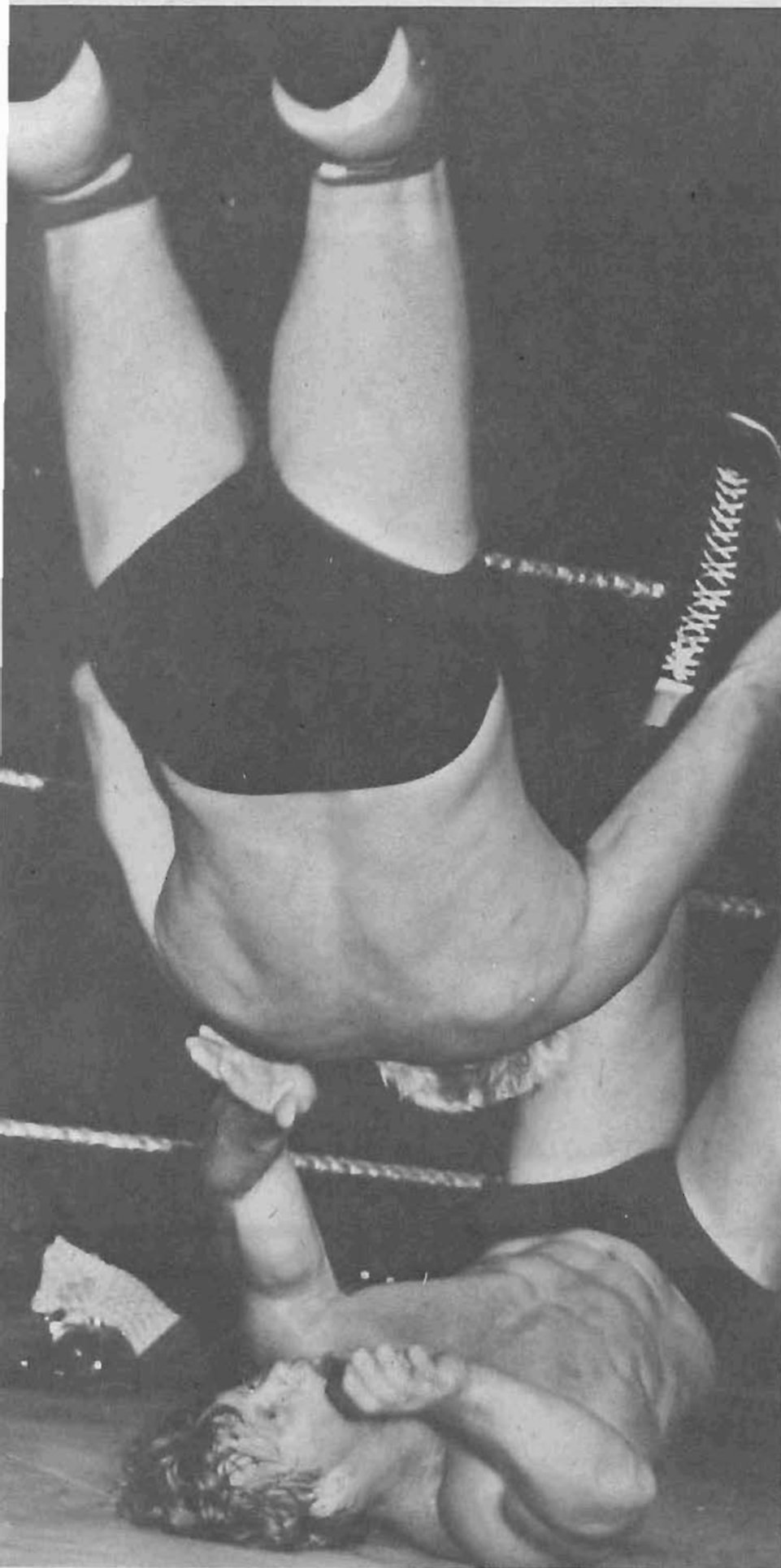
You know, fans are going to think, "That Bruno Sammartino, he wants everyone to think how wonderful he can be." I'm not doing this for praise. I'm doing this to help another human being and an excellent wrestler.

But all this has little to do with the real problem. Backlund is in serious, serious trouble. More trouble than he may realize at the moment. Young men can be very stubborn. I respect Backlund's integrity but I question his wisdom.

You see, I fear that others may know about the flaw. I have heard whispers around the locker room that the Grand Wizard has a secret plan to destroy Bob Backlund. I made some inquiries and learned something that







Backlund monkey-flips Pat Patterson. Sammartino feels it won't be long before others discover the champion's flaw. That could mark the end of his title reign.

would curl the hair on your head.

I think the Grand Wizard knows what I know. I told Backlund this and he laughed. Imagine, laughing about that. He is a very confident young man. Maybe too confident for his own good.

Youngsters don't realize they must learn as much about conducting themselves outside the ring as they do inside that wonderful squared circle. There are many truths to be learned. Some of them deal with different maneuvers, what to look for when an opponent comes charging at you, frightening, but exciting moments like that.

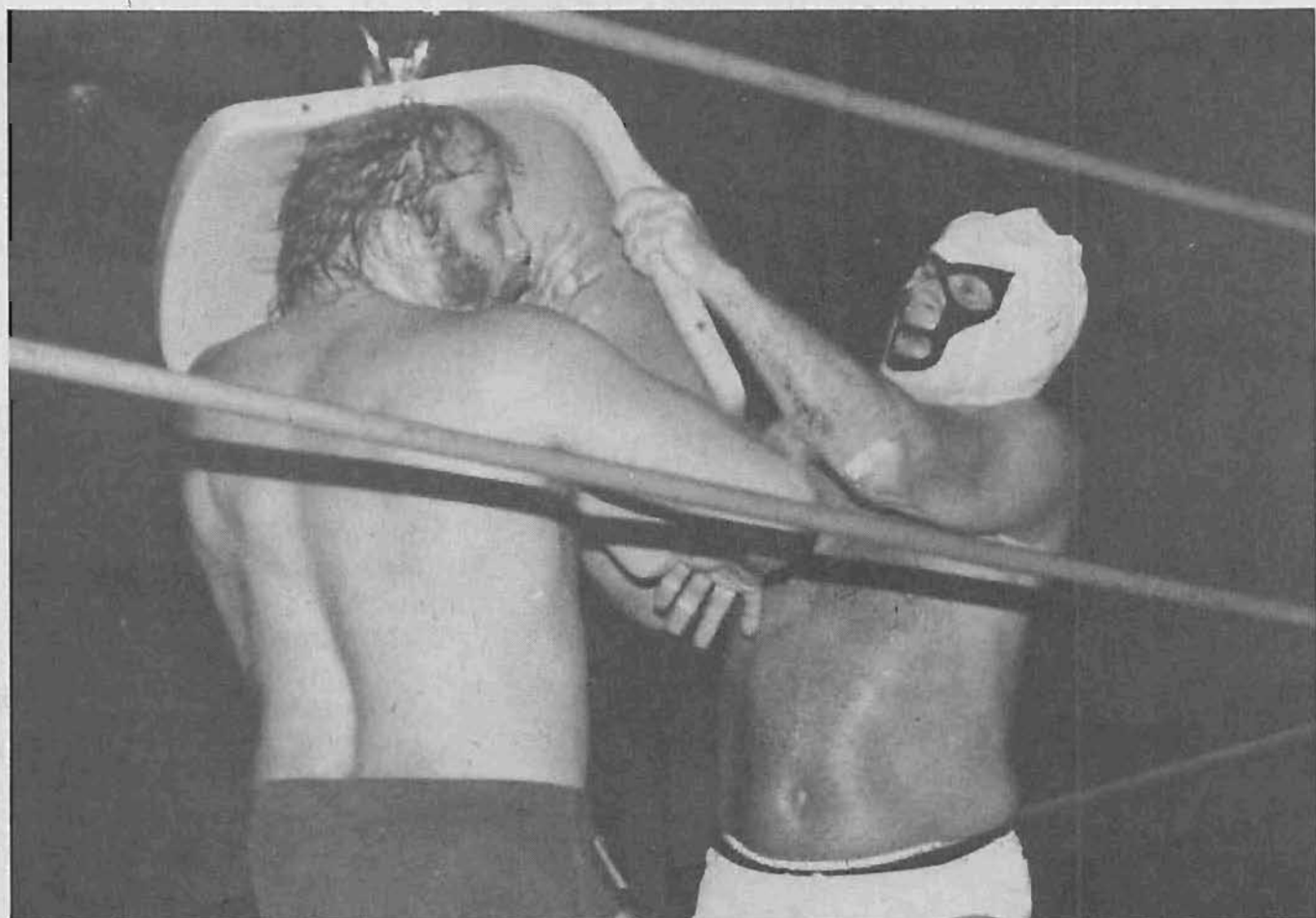
Then there is the process of selecting opponents. Backlund has the best manager in the world for that, Arnold Skoaland. That man has a sixth sense about charting a career.

But there is one more item you might learn if you want to be one of the greats. That is listening to others and understanding what they are doing for you. I don't say, listen to everyone, because you forgot what you believe in and everything becomes unnatural.

What I am saying, you know, I think it is important for a man to learn when to listen and when not to. And it is also important to know when not to be too stubborn and independent.

I have done all I can for Backlund. The rest is up to him. □

# MR. WREST



**E**VERYTHING ELSE FADED away as Mr. Wrestling II read the letter. Then, as if another look would change its message, he read it again.

After the first shock, the grappler told himself, "There's got to be some mistake. They can't keep me out of wrestling in Georgia. This is insane."

A quick phone call told Mr. Wrestling II that while it might be insane, it was all too real. The Georgia Athletic Commission would not give him a license to wrestle in Georgia. They were terribly sorry, but there was nothing they could do." As you know," the assistant director said, "we have a quota for wrestler

licenses. They've all been issued. However, when someone leaves the state, you'll be the first to get a license."

That couldn't be. The grappler knew how many wrestlers were in

the state and it wasn't close to the quota. In fact, wrestlers had been leaving for other areas. That's a nice way of saying they were fleeing Bobby Heenan's band of marauders. Mr. Wrestling II had

# THE ST GEO

# FLING II VS.

**Bobby Heenan uses the wrestling laws of Georgia and the laws of the United States for his own perverse purpose, to destroy the career of Mr. Wrestling II. Yet Heenan may have met his match in the man behind the white mask. II succumbs to no one!**



**Mr. Wrestling II ran into an unexpected obstacle when he decided to make his return to Georgia. Bobby Heenan, the notorious rulebreaker manager, blocked his entrance by filling the licensing quota with wrestlers that never appear in the state. Mr. Wrestling II (battling Angelo Mosca) proved he could be just as cunning as Heenan.**

expressly come to Georgia in the hopes of breaking Heenan's hold on the state.

So, with wrestlers leaving daily, how could the quota be filled? It seemed impossible. There was no

logical explanation. Then Mr. Wrestling II physically jerked. Everything was clear now. The logical explanation was Bobby Heenan's skullduggery.

Mr. Wrestling II was in his car

and headed for the Georgia Athletic Commission. Soon, he was pouring over the files. It didn't take long to see what was happening.

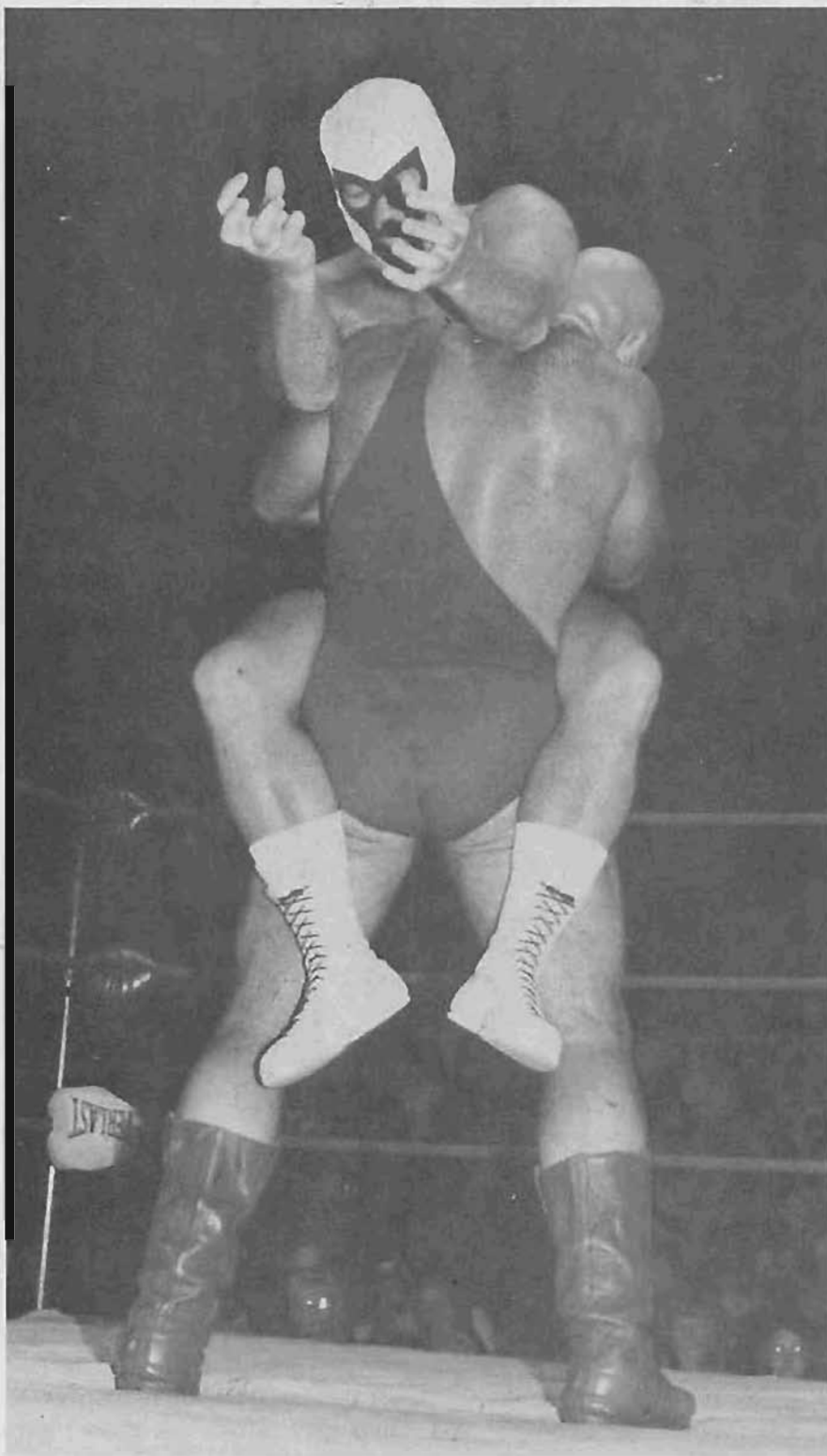
At least 80 percent of all the new licenses listed Bobby Heenan as the manager. Most of those were wrestlers that weren't within a thousand miles of Georgia. Heenan had them licensed so that other grapplers, those who Heenan didn't control, couldn't get licenses. It was a cruel trick to the sport and the fans. It was also a brilliant maneuver allowing Heenan to control Georgian wrestling like a czar. No one could enter unless Heenan wanted them.

The plot seemed to be foolj

# ATE OF RGIA!

PHOTOS BY  
MAGGIE ADKINS





than his statement. "What we have to do is fight the state commission while really fighting Heenan. In other words, we put pressure on the state, who in turn will put pressure on Heenan. Heenan made the state look stupid, so they'll want revenge to salvage their reputation. How badly do you want Heenan to squirm?"

"As badly as you can make him squirm."

"You got it."

Two days later, Mr. Wrestling II got a phone call from a very upset Bobby Heenan.

"What are you doing to me?" Heenan screeched. "You want to see me in jail?"

"Okay with me."

"Are you crazy? It's all a mistake. Who is that lawyer, anyway? He wants to put me in jail!"

"Good idea."

"You louse. I'll get you for this!"

"From a jail cell. So far, we've got you on criminal fraud, attempting to form a trust, and a few other things with complicated names I forget. But don't worry. The prosecutor won't forget them."

"Okay. We deal."

Mr. Wrestling II laughed. "I thought you'd see it my way. First, I get a license by tomorrow. Second, I get a series of matches against your best wrestlers. Third, I want assurances that there will always be at least five licenses available for my friends. That means, if there are ever less than five openings, one of your wrestlers will have to give up a license. I want that in writing."

"In writing? That's an insult."

"Would you rather be insulted or in jail?"

"You'll get your document."

"And everything else I demanded?"

"You'll get it all. And more than you bargained for!"

Mr. Wrestling II smiled. He got just what he bargained for—the chance to defeat Bobby Heenan's army! □

Mr. Wrestling II wanted to break Heenan's neck, but that wouldn't change anything. This called for brains, not brawn. Mr. Wrestling II called his lawyer.

"Heenan is very clever," the lawyer admitted, "and I don't know if there's anything I can do. At the very least, it'll take a couple of days."

"Take all the time you need," the

In effect, Mr. Wrestling II blackmailed Bobby Heenan to get back into Georgia. II, caught in an Ivan Koloff bearhug, would like the opportunity to wipe out Heenan's army.

grappler replied. "Right now, I've got nothing but time."

Three days later, the lawyer called back. "I think I've got it," the man announced, the tone of his voice betraying more confidence

# NICK BOCKWINKEL

---

## THE LAST HURRAH?

**Y**OU CAN SEE it in the faces of AWA wrestlers. Something's coming. Something big.

Ask Dewey Robertson. Ask Greg Gagne. Ask any grappler who has recently faced Nick Bockwinkel, AWA champion. They can sense the king is ready to be dethroned.

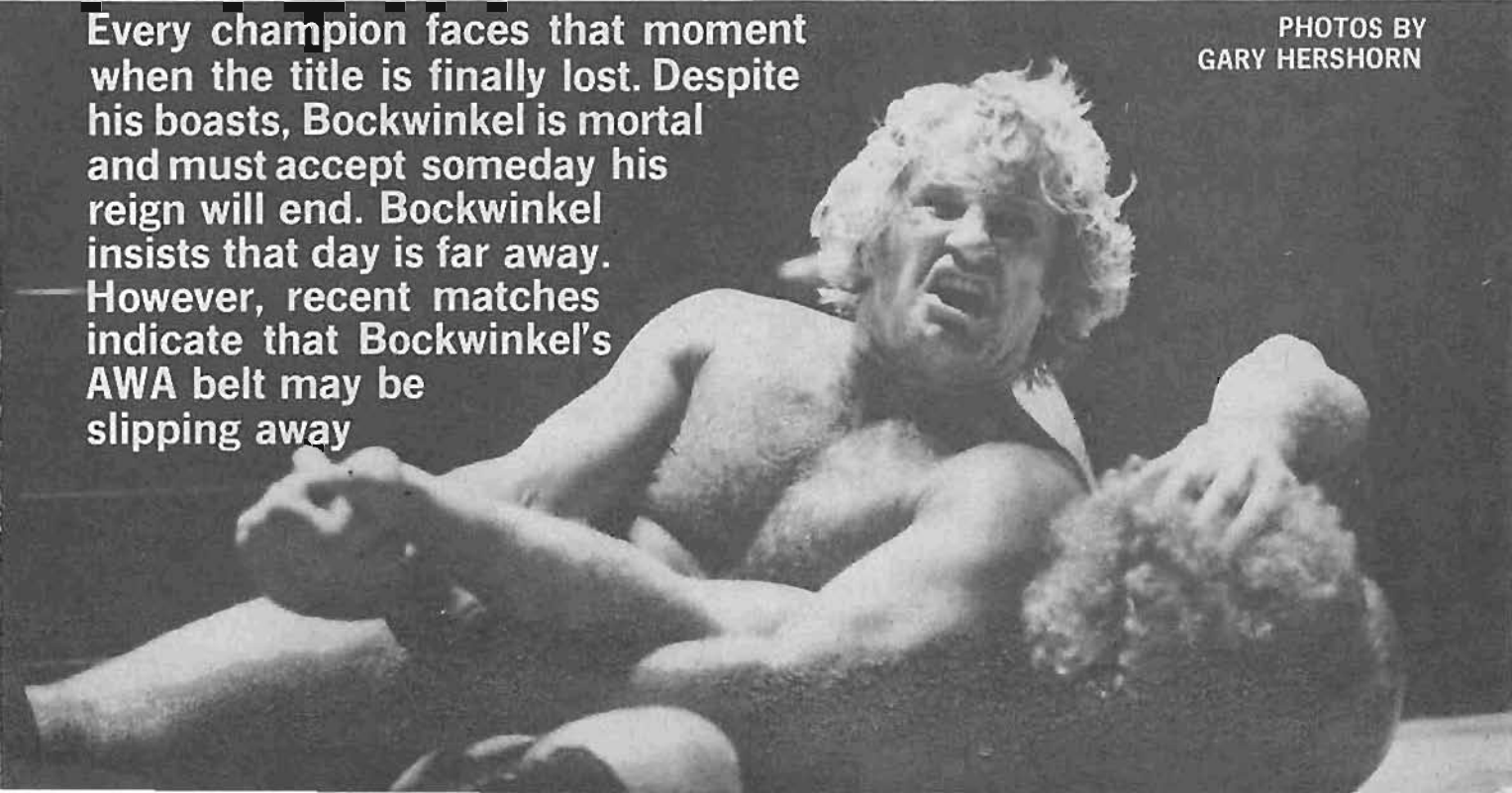
"You can feel it in the air," Dewey Robertson declares, and his face breaks into a wide grin. "Before a title is about to change hands, you can sense something is going to happen. I can't explain it, but anyone who's been at a match where a major title has changed hands knows

what I'm talking about. That's when this . . . feeling, I guess you'd call it, is strongest. But before the night of the match, wrestlers have sensed the feeling for weeks. I guess we're more sensitive to it.

"Well, I've sensed it. And I've talked to other guys and they've

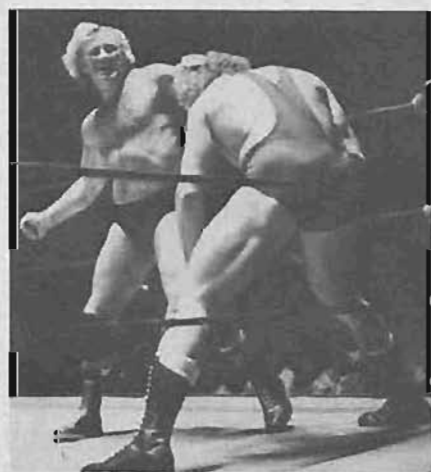
Every champion faces that moment when the title is finally lost. Despite his boasts, Bockwinkel is mortal and must accept someday his reign will end. Bockwinkel insists that day is far away. However, recent matches indicate that Bockwinkel's AWA belt may be slipping away

PHOTOS BY  
GARY HERSHORN





The word around AWA land is that Nick Bockwinkel is ready to be taken. Is it true that the championship belt is sliding from his waist? Above: Dewey Robertson expands his left bicep around Bockwinkel's chin. Below: Nick fights back, but only briefly. Bottom: A weakened champion tries in vain to loosen Robertson's grip.



sensed it. Bockwinkel has the stink of defeat about him. Hell, even he knows it's there.

"Watch him wrestle lately. He moves like a worried man. It's no wonder he's losing all those non-title matches. Scared men wrestle lousy. I've beaten him and was shocked at how easy it was. Look, ask anybody, don't take my word for it. He's ready to fall. I can think of 10 guys who have a shot at him. It's just a question of who's going to be lucky enough to be at the right place at the right time. Ask anybody."

A short survey reveals almost the entire AWA expects Bockwinkel to fall soon. "He's blowing too many non-title matches," Greg Gagne declares. "He's desperate and that makes him sloppy. He's hanging on to his title by luck. Right now, he's like the old lion who's led his pride too long. One of the young lions is sure to replace him soon. Bockwinkel knows it. You can see it in his eyes."

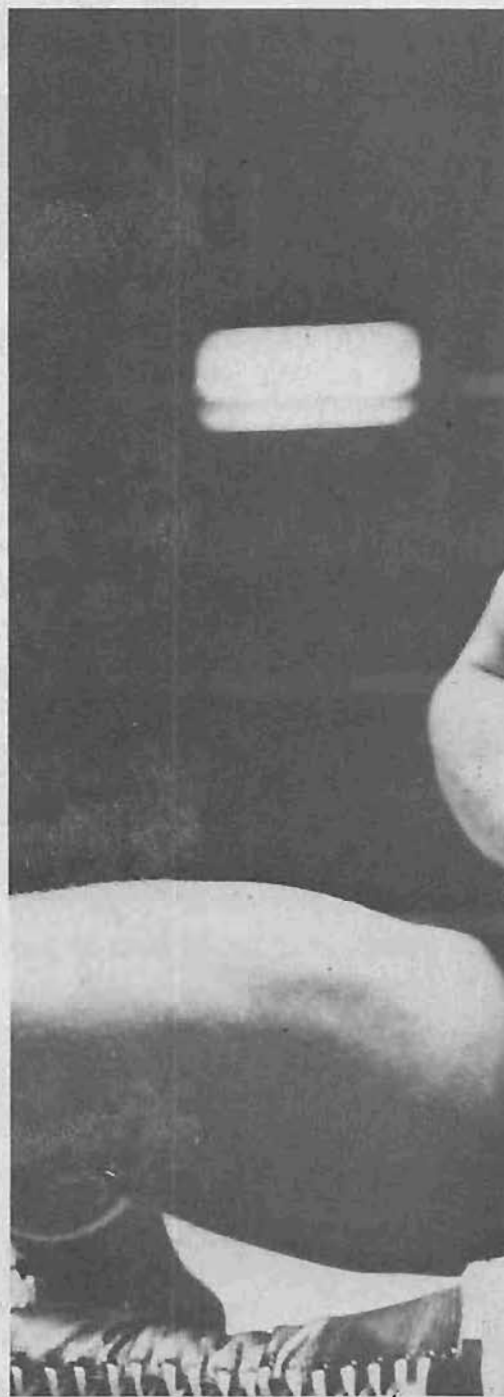
One of the wrestlers who agrees is currently being avoided by Bockwinkel. "A real champion," Dino Bravo contends, "wouldn't avoid anyone. I've offered to wrestle Bockwinkel for nothing—he can have my share of the purse—but Nick ignores me. That means he's scared. I don't mean to brag. Bockwinkel isn't scared of me because I'm so great. He's scared because he hasn't wrestled me. He's terrified of the unknown. That's a sure sign of a scared champ."

"Look, Bockwinkel was supposed to lose his title a couple of months after he won it. No one figured him to stay. Now, he's held the title for years. He's living on borrowed time. His luck can't last forever."

Is there anybody who thinks Bockwinkel can stay on top? You have to leave the AWA and travel to Georgia to find

someone who thinks Bockwinkel can retain his title for long. Nick's former manager, Bobby Heenan, laughs at the reports of Bockwinkel's imminent defeat.

"They've been saying Nick is through," Heenan contends, "from the day he won the belt. Every match he wins is either the result of luck or cheating. Well, nobody is that lucky and nobody can cheat that good. Bockwinkel is a genius. You can't blame Nick because the rest of the burns are too stupid to





see he's a genius. Look, Dino Bravo thinking he can beat Nick Bockwinkel is like Miss Piggy thinking she's prettier than Farrah Fawcett.

"Bockwinkel will retire with the belt. You can bet your mortgage on it."

Of course, there's one person in the AWA who thinks Nick is going to stay champion—Bockwinkel himself. The man doesn't seem to have a worry in the world.

"I've heard all this slop before," Nick declares, "and I'm

still champion and they're not. Let them talk. Dewey Robertson says I'm going to lose soon. Dewey Robertson? You expect me to worry about a wrestler named *Dewey*? That guy was condemned to be a loser at birth. His parents must have wanted him to be a librarian. His parents knew best.

"As for Greg Gagne, what can you say about a guy whose big claim to fame is that he's somebody's son? What has he done on his own? Oh yeah, his big contribution to wrestling is

that he brought Jim Brunzell into the sport. Brunzell has been good for wrestling. Think how happy he has made all the people who've beaten him.

"Dino Bravo is challenging *me*? He's not fit to be a title contender. When he earns the right to wrestle me, I'll be glad to batter him senseless.

"I'm gonna be champion for a good long time. Bet on it."

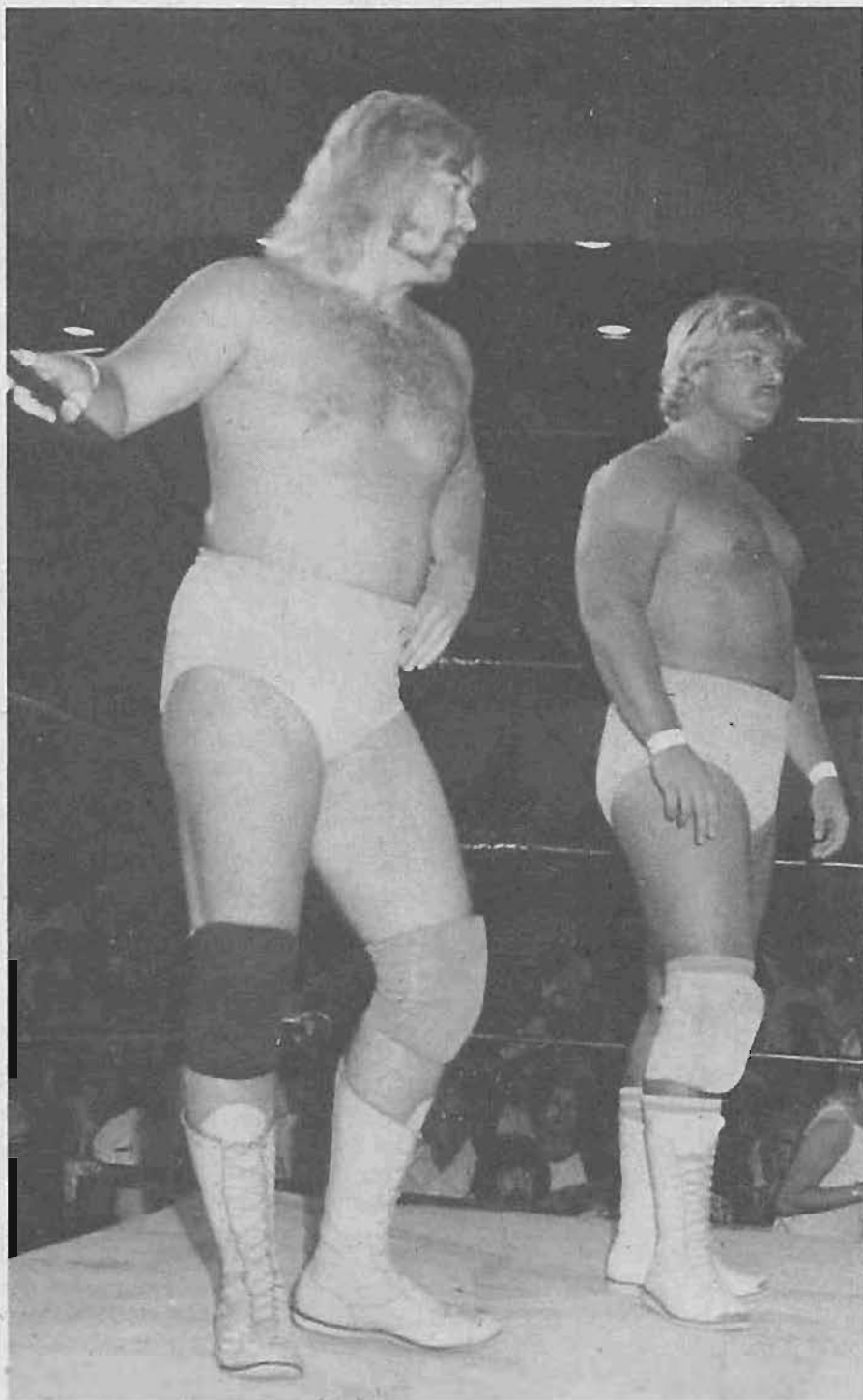
Nick Bockwinkel is confident. Yet, that special feeling Dewey Robertson talked about is getting stronger. □



Bockwinkel has intentionally disqualified himself on numerous occasions to retain his title. Left: Bockwinkel's strength continues to be sapped by Dewey's headlock. Above: Even Robertson is getting bored with the headlock. Below: Dewey lifts the champion and slams him to the mat.



# INTRODUCING



## BRYAN ST. JOHN AND STANLEY LANE

**A**LL OF A sudden, the gym goes quiet. Some of the most famous names in wrestling stop what they're doing to watch. Entering the gym are Bryan St. John and Stanley Lane, the Florida tag team champions.

The spectators were more than curious as they studied the pair working out. Every man knew he might someday have to face this team in the ring. There is so little known about the champions that every inkling is to be examined.

St. John and Lane relish the attention. The pair starts to strut toward the mats. Their mouths twist into an expression somewhere between a smirk and a snarl. They go through their routines effortlessly, paying more attention to the effect they create than to the workout. When they finish, St. John calls out, "Towels for the champions!"

The others are about to laugh at this nonsensical demand when two beautiful young women rush into the gym bearing towels. The blonde hands hers to Bryan; the redhead offers hers to Stanley. The champions towel down, then send the women on their way. Nobody is even considering a laugh.

The two men walk over to the ring.

"Everybody looking?" Bryan shouts. "I don't want anyone to be surprised. Watch what the champions plan to do. Think about it. Have nightmares about it. Then try to beat us. Try real hard!"

Everybody studies the action, hoping to penetrate the team's greatness and find a flaw. If a flaw is found, nobody is saying. Accept for the sound of Bryan and Stanley hitting the canvas, all was silent.

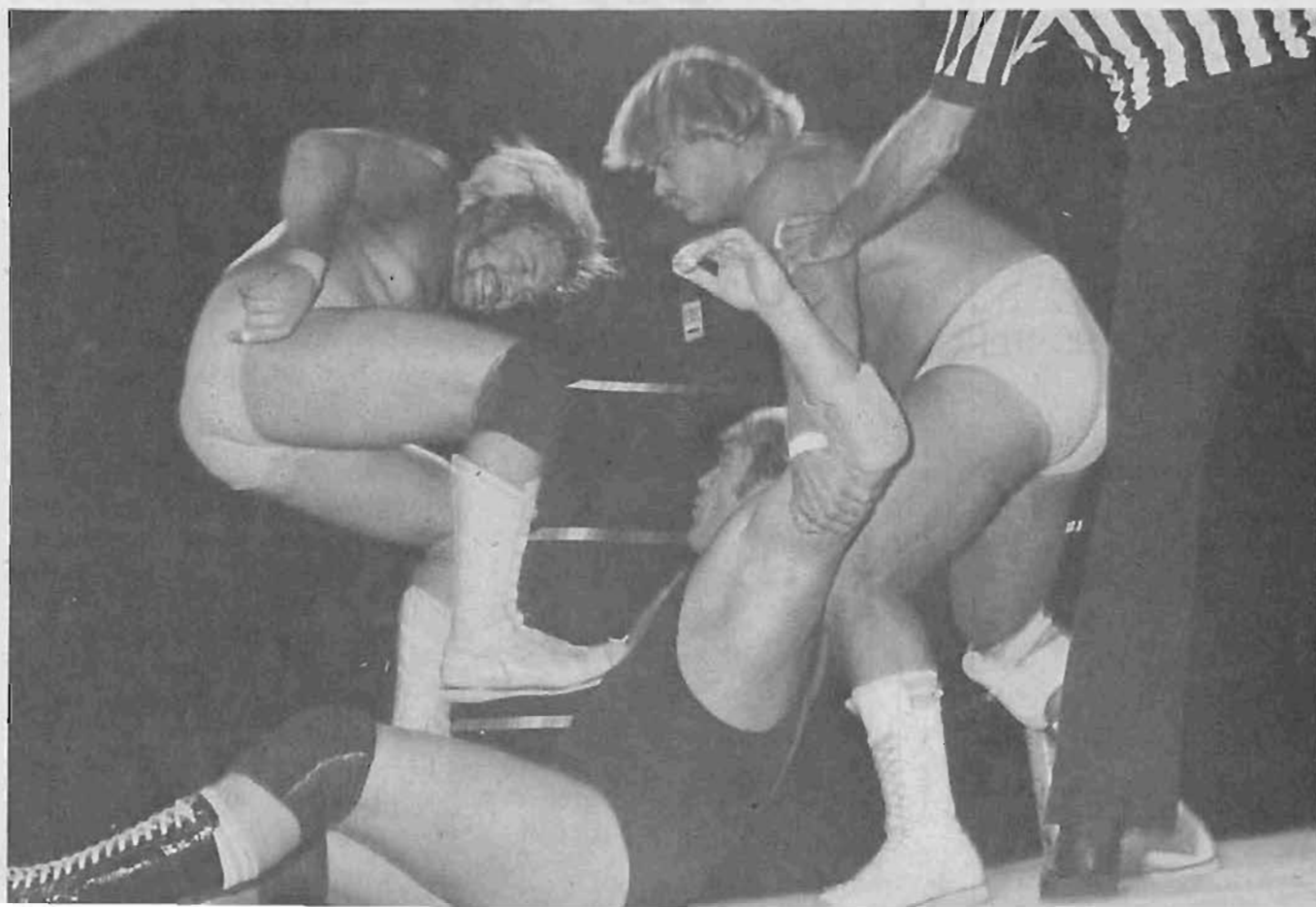
Some of the silence was due to the fact that wrestlers in

*(Continued on page 64)*



Bryan St. John's grip alternates between Manny Fernandez's throat and chin depending on the angle of the referee's vision (above left). St. John broke Steve Keirn's sleeper hold by grabbing a handful of hair (above right). The teamwork of St. John and Lane (below), though illegal, is responsible for their success.

**All Florida needed was another pair of warped wrestlers determined to mutilate and shame wrestling. They're big, fast, and mean. Bryan St. John and Stanley Lane know only one way to wrestle: dirty**





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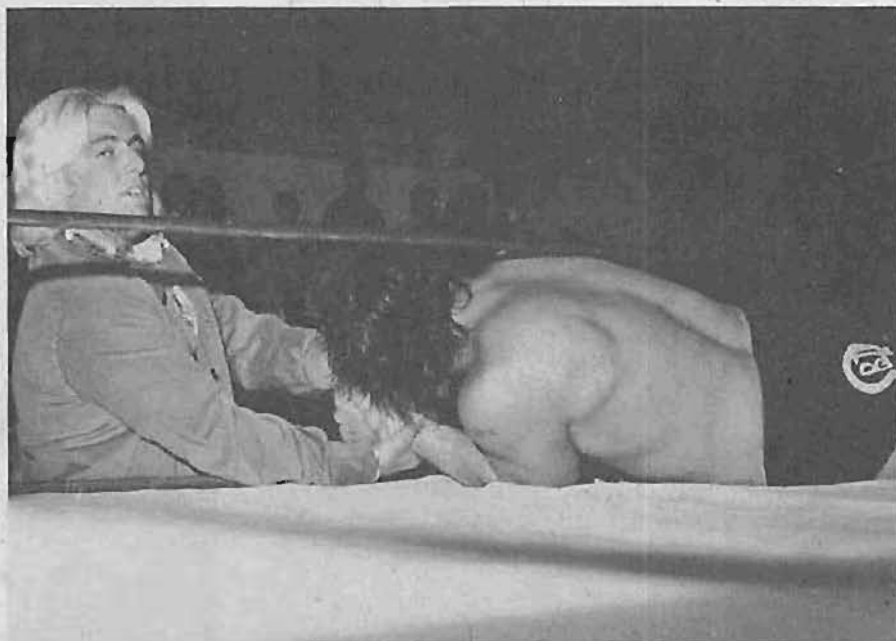
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## YOU ASKED US

(Continued from Page 8)



Ric Flair comes to the aid of a badly injured Blackjack Mulligan (above). Flair wasn't always a fan favorite and reader Jim Humphrey wants to know what changed him.



During Flair's rulebreaker days, he positions Wahoo McDaniel for a figure-four leglock (above). The Gagnes, Greg and Verne, have indeed bridged the generation gap in the ring.



**Q:** What is the real reason Ric Flair became a scientific wrestler and partners with guys like Rick Steamboat and Blackjack Mulligan—Jim Humphrey, Charlotte, N.C.

**A:** "I never changed, it was the fans who changed and recognized my brilliance," Flair explained. "I'm the same as I always was. I aim to win and that I do well, better than anyone else in the game. I'm still tougher and more agile and better-looking than anyone else, so what's the gripe? As for Steamboat and Mulligan and them people, they also came around and saw what Ric Flair was really like, the lucky dogs."

\*\*\*

**Q:** Has Verne Gagne and his son Greg ever wrestled as a tag team? If not, are they planning to?—Ken Jack, Colorado Spring, Col.

**A:** Verne and Greg Gagne *did* wrestle as a tag team several times in the past. It's easy to predict how they did—they were sensational.

**Q:** Several months ago, I heard a couple of stories which said that The Sheik was about to challenge Bob Backlund for the WWF title. Was this a bunch of hor air or what?—Martin Rambusch, Queens, N.Y.

**A:** The Sheik did get his title match with Bob Backlund, as we reported in the January 1980 issue of THE WRESTLER ("Why Bob Backlund Had No Right To Wrestle The Sheik").

\*\*\*

**Q:** Is there any truth to the rumor that Ernie Ladd will abandon wrestling and return to professional football?—Daryl Rogers, Des Moines, Ia.



Ernie Ladd shows the stance that struck fear in many NFL quarterbacks' hearts. Ernie plans on remaining a wrestler.

**A:** "As you might know, I was All-Pro defensive lineman for many years until wrestling pleaded with me to clean up the sport and rid wrestling of losers," Ladd responded. "Many NFL teams have asked me to rejoin them. Of course, I could step right in and regain my All-Pro status. But I'm too loved here. I have too much to accomplish as Ruler of Wrestling." ☐

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# THUMBS UP, THUMBS DOWN

(Continued from Page 10)



**THUMBS DOWN** to Jerry Lawler: Friendship is a valuable commodity, yet Lawler treats this precious gem like an old rock. He permitted a misunderstanding to ruin his friendship with Bill Dundee and generate a horribly bloody feud. Shame, Jerry Lawler.



**THUMBS UP** to Sweet Brown Sugar: All wrestling rejoiced when Sugar got his long-awaited NWA title shot against Harley Race. Though Sugar was disqualified for over-eagerness, his performance demonstrated great potential and ensured his return to the NWA title wars.



**THUMBS DOWN** to Buddy Rogers: Old rulebreakers never die, they just return as fiendish managers. Doesn't Buddy Rogers have a conscience? How can he sleep at night, knowing what he did to innocent Jimmy Snuka, a victim of Rogers' depravity? Hopefully Snuka will wise up and realize that Rogers is exploiting him for his own deranged purposes.



**THUMBS UP** to Tommy Rich: Anytime a young man captures his first title, wrestling gains from that achievement. The sport needs more men like Rich, who are willing to maintain their principles and will not be swayed from their ultimate objective: success with a decent expression.



**THUMBS DOWN** to Stan Hansen: He promised he would never use the Lariat. So much for Hansen as a man of his word. If Hansen thinks fans will overlook his selfish lies, he's grossly underestimating the innate intelligence of wrestling fans.



## YOUR LETTERS

(Continued from Page 12)

when he is no longer useful. DiBiase is no longer useful. He should retire and look for other work and I wish you bleeding-heart writers would stop jerking out the crying towel the minute a young guy starts crying.

MILLIE O'NEILL  
Springfield, Mass.



Ric Flair will turn rulebreaker again, and when he does, he will be punished by Rick Steamboat for trying to deceive the fans. So writes Parker Jones, a reader from Raleigh, North Carolina.

### ADIOS, FLAIR

I wasn't the least bit surprised when I read that Ric Flair's days were numbered as a fan favorite in the February issue of THE WRESTLER. Flair is just no good. He couldn't stay on the straight side of wrestling if his life depended on it. Maybe it does.

Once Rick Steamboat sees how Flair stabbed his fans in the back, I bet Ricky comes forward and goes all out to punish Flair, once and for all.

Adios, Flair. We won't miss ya.  
PARKER JONES  
Raleigh, N.C. ☐

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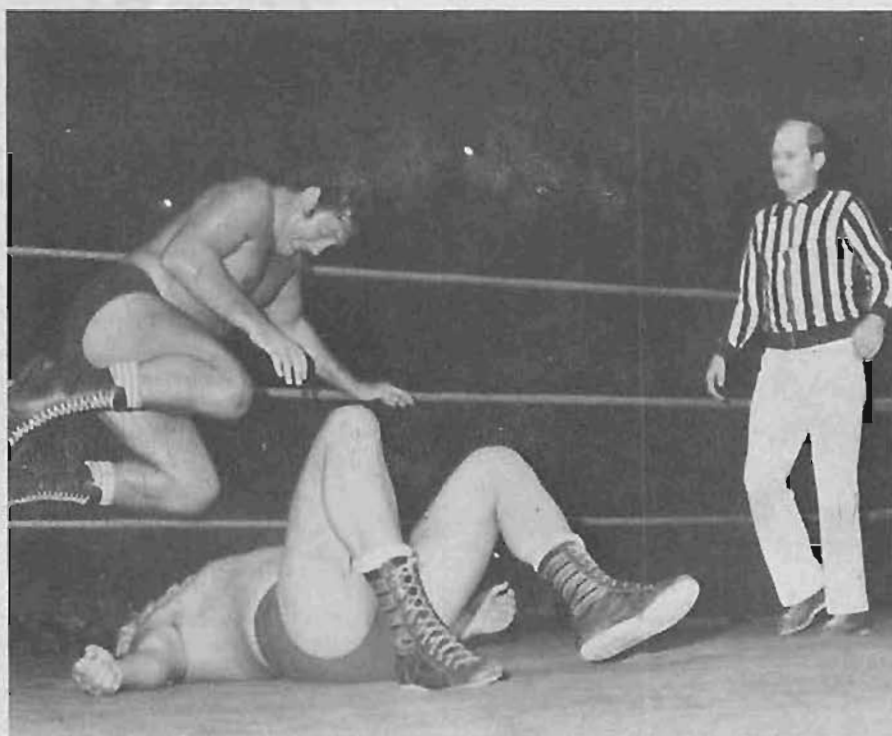
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## CORRESPONDENT REPORTS

(Continued from Page 14)



British star Billy Robinson comes in for a knee-first landing on his opponent's chest (above). Jimmy Snuka, the U.S. champion, flips Bruiser Brodie to the mat (left).



In other bouts, Greg Gagne and Jesse Ventura were both counted out . . . Super Destroyer Three won by disqualification over Angelo Mosca . . . Andre the giant demolished Bob Duncum to win a 20-man battle royal.

**SAVANNAH, GA.—Correspondent: Sharon Poole**—In a U.S. title match, champion Jimmy Snuka ensnared Ric Flair in the dreaded Guillotine, but the former champ refused to concede. Flair's courage infuriated Snuka, provoking the frustrated champ to use dirty holds to get Flair down for the count. Flair's foot was over the ropes for the first two counts with Snuka pulling it off just as the referee tolled the final count.

In other matches, S.D. Jones and Cowboy Lang stopped Brute Bernard and Tiny Thumb . . . Tony Garea pummeled Charlie Fulton . . . Billy Starr stomped Frank Monte.

### WINNIPEG, MANITOBA—

**Correspondent: Mike Alexander**—

The main event was for the British Empire title between Billy Robinson and Super Destroyer Mark Two. At first, the ferocious brutality appeared to guarantee a draw between these two brilliant athletes. But at the 20-minute mark, Lord Al Hays, Mark Two's manager, handed his charge a brass knuckle, enabling him a vicious victory over the title.



**DURANT, OKLA.—Correspondent:** Hal Horn—Kevin Von Erich raised a few eyebrows in his match against the Masked Spoiler. Not many people thought Kevin could tough it out. He did, surprising everyone by matching the Masked Spoiler's claw. Frustrated, the Masked Spoiler was disqualified for putting a clawhold on the referee.

In other bouts, Les Thornton whipped Ron McDonald... Kerry Von Erich escaped the maniacal wrath of Killer Brooks... In tag team action, Les Thornton and Kerry Von Erich pounded Killer Brooks and Ron McDonald.



Kevin Von Erich (left) receives a stern lecture from his dad, Fritz, as brother David stands by. Kevin defeated The Masked Spoiler by disqualification when Spoiler used his clawhold on the referee.

**CHICAGO, ILL.—Correspondent:** Ken Zalewski—Nick Bockwinkel came very close to losing the AWA title to Bobo Brazil. After three failed bearhugs, Bobo used his famed coco-butt a dozen times on Bockwinkel's back and lifted him into a fourth bearhug. Desperate as the title slipped away, Nick slugged the referee and got disqualified.

In other matches, Bruiser Brodie overwhelmed Dick the Bruiser... Crusher lost a handicap match to Lord Al Hays and Paul Christy... Paul Ellering over Jackie Ruffen... The Strangler bested Blackie Guzman. ☐

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING

(Continued from Page 18)

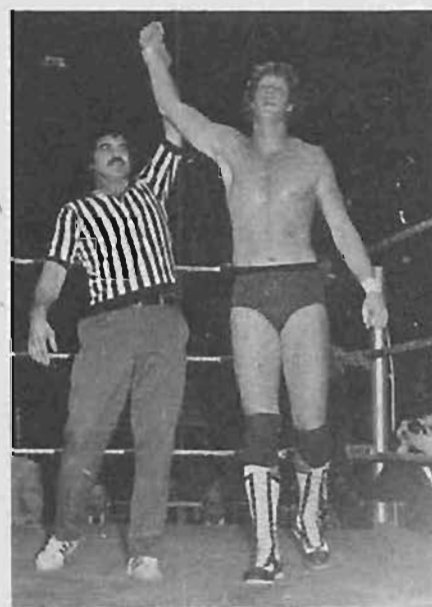
the AWA had better beware. I have taught Nick a new hold I learned in Japan. It's deadly. It's a killer. No one can defeat us! No one!"

Sir Oliver Humperdink has purchased the contract of Bad Leroy Brown and has him grappling in Florida . . . Ted DiBiase will sign for a series of bouts in Oklahoma. Pat Patterson claims he ran Ted out of the WWF . . . Chief Jay Strongbow is readying a world tour . . . Sweet Brown Sugar kept his Southern title after a wild rematch against former champion Ernie Ladd . . . Promoters in the WWF are anxious to sign David Von Erich for another match after his impressive debut in Madison Square Garden.

Captain Lou Albano is leading his Samoans to the WWF tag team title. "Putski and Santana don't stand a chance against my wild men!" Albano exclaims . . . Mr. Wrestling II is still trying to unmask the imposter posing as Mr. Wrestling II in Georgia . . . Rick Steamboat and Jay Youngblood are enjoying a lengthy reign as NWA tag team champions . . . Greg Valentine is still trying to persuade Ric Flair to become a rulebreaker again.

Mil Mascaras and Victor Rivera are at war in California. Their most recent battle saw Mil nearly lose his mask as Rivera ripped the top open with a foreign object. It's a real shame to see these two former friends trying to destroy one another.

This news just in: Mike Graham and Steve Keirn have regained the Florida tag team title. However, former champions Bryan St. John and Stanley Lane did not lose the title to Mike and Steve in the ring. Here's what happened:



Young David Von Erich has his arm raised in victory after a sensational debut in New York's Madison Square Garden.

Due to some controversy regarding how St. John and Lane won the title, the duo agreed to put up their belts in a three-team tournament. The night of the tournament (consisting of them, Mr. Hito and Mr. Sakurada, and Graham and Keirn), St. John and Lane had to pull out due to an injury sustained by St. John. The Florida commission said the title is up for grabs anyway. Graham and Keirn won it and now St. John and Lane must stand in line and wait their turn to try and get the belts back.

Missouri state champion Kevin Von Erich has issued a heated challenge to former champion Dick Murdoch. Murdoch, claiming he was the victim of a biased referee, has failed to accept the young Von Erich's challenge. "I don't want to waste my time with that punk kid," Murdoch told us. "I don't need him or that belt of his. I know I am the best and I don't need a belt to prove it."

And that's what's happening! See you next time. □

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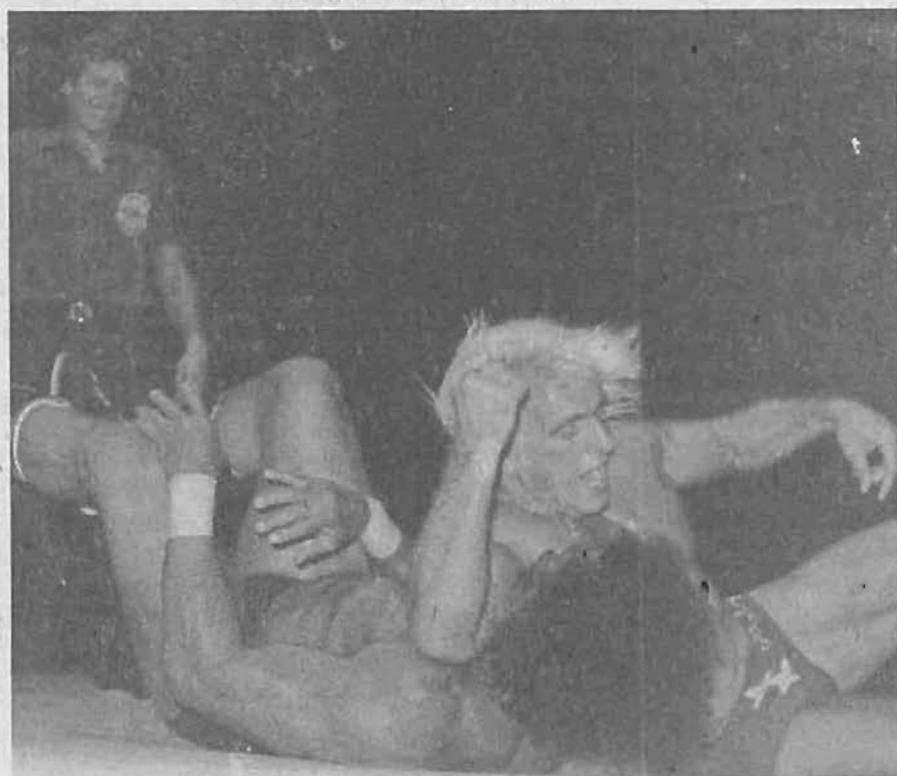
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**Q & A**

(Continued from Page 21)



Flair's flying elbowsmash narrowly missed Snuka's throat, its intended target. This match turned into a brutal bloodbath and was stopped when the attending physician ruled both combatants unfit to continue. Flair says if he could get the disqualification rules waived, he would emerge the new heavyweight champion.

**A:** We both want to win. And Valentine is my good buddy. That's all I'll say. I don't stab friends in the back.

**Q:** What are your feelings about Snuka's claim that he learned rulebending from you?

**A:** I can't account for sick minds. Snuka's a nut, which ain't surprising considering who manages him. Don't fret, Snuka has no more than two months left in wrestling.

**Q:** Then?

**A:** I'll finish him off. I'm considering putting up 10,000 bucks in a winner take all, loser leave wrestling match. No time limit, no stopping for excessive bleeding. Me and Snuka and only one

comes out. I don't know if that freak has the guts for it. We'll see.

**Q:** You prefer this sort of decisive match, don't you?

**A:** Yeah, I'm tired of this draw garbage. You psyche yourself up for a match and boom, the bell goes off and you're left with blood and cuts and nothin' much else. Next time I wrestle Race for his title, I'll demand a no-time limit match. If Harley has the guts to agree, fans will finally get a real champion out of that match.

**Q:** Ric Flair, champion scientific wrestler, or Ric Flair, rulebreaker champion?

**A:** Ric Flair, champion. Ain't that all that matters? □



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## **ANDRE'S VOW**

(Continued from Page 25)

seconds wisely and well. Brodie never got back in the match.

After it was over, the ring doctor rushed to Andre's side. He took one look at the victim's eyes and demanded, "I need a couple of guys to help this man back to the dressing room. Now!"

Two men quickly came to the grappler's aid. As they led Andre away, Brodie rushed up and screamed, "I lost the match but you're finished. You're finished!"

Andre was too weak to reply.



Andre the Giant staggers about the ring after being hit repeatedly by the steel bar Bruiser Brodie concealed within his bandaged right hand.

Back in the dressing room, the doctor examined Andre carefully. "The man has a concussion. Don't let him go to sleep. We'll take him to the hospital. It's a few blocks away. It might be better if we walk. Driving, he could fall asleep. That's dangerous with a concussion. Let's go."

Andre survived. He'll be able to wrestle as good as ever. Luck was all that saved Andre and wrestling from tragedy. One would suppose punishment was given to the man or men responsible for allowing

Brodie into the ring with a steel bar taped to his hand. That's what one would suppose.

The reality is different. There was a meeting called to see who was responsible for the gross negligence. First, the referee testified.

"According to what I'd been told," the official said, "I'm not allowed to inspect a man's bandage. If foul play is suspected, the ring officials are supposed to demand the bandage be inspected. It's not my responsibility. Brodie could've demanded I be replaced. You know how those guys are always screaming with favoritism,



especially when they're wrestling Andre."

Next, the ring officials made their excuses.

"We couldn't do anything," they said, "because it's a medical matter. If we opened the bandage and Brodie suffered because of it, we could be sued. The doctor should've examined the bandage before Brodie got near the ring."

Naturally, the doctor was called. Just as naturally, he explained why he wasn't to blame.

"My one responsibility," he declared, "is to examine wrestlers after the match. If they wanted

(Continued on page 58)

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## ANDRE'S VOW

(Continued from Page 57)

Brodie examined before, either the ring official or the referee should have asked. Look, I'm a doctor. I help people who are hurt. I'm not some kind of medical cop. That's up to the ref or ring officials."

The inquiry ended with nothing resolved. Brodie was fined for entering the ring with a reinforced bandage. They wanted to suspend him, but Brodie pointed out the bandage was in full view of everyone. It should have been examined. If they let him wrestle, then the bandage couldn't have been all that bad. After all, as he said, "If a loaded bandage is a bad crime, why wasn't I examined?" No one could answer that one.



Andre is at Brodie's mercy. The Giant has threatened to leave wrestling if Brodie does not face disciplinary action.

So, no one really suffered but Andre. "In a way, he was lucky, also," the doctor observed. "If he was hit just a little harder, his skull would've cracked. He would've been seriously injured or even killed." As it was, the wrestler was dizzy for a few days. He had to cancel a month of matches, costing him a small fortune. Still, it could have been much worse.

Andre doesn't like to talk about the incident. Yet, when Brodie's name is mentioned, Andre's eyes get hard and cold. It makes you believe justice will triumph eventually. □

# SPORTS REVIEW Wrestling

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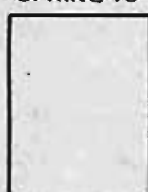
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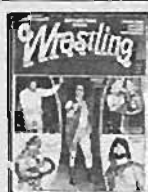


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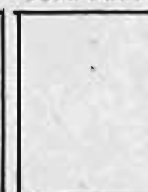
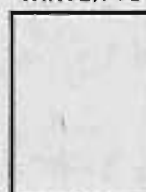
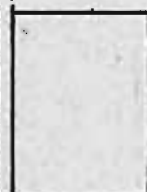
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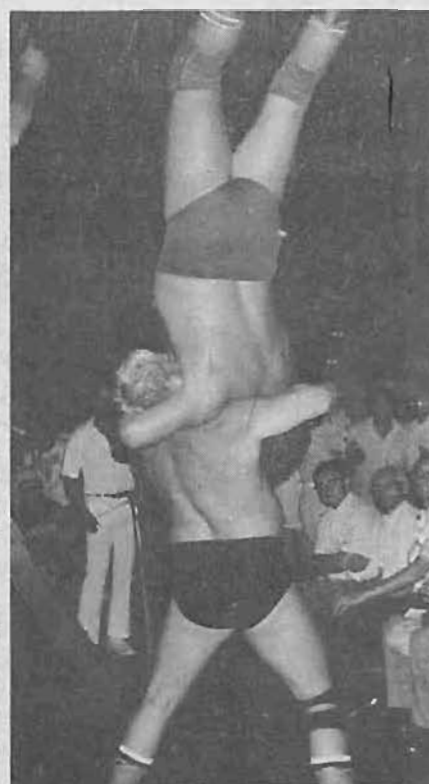
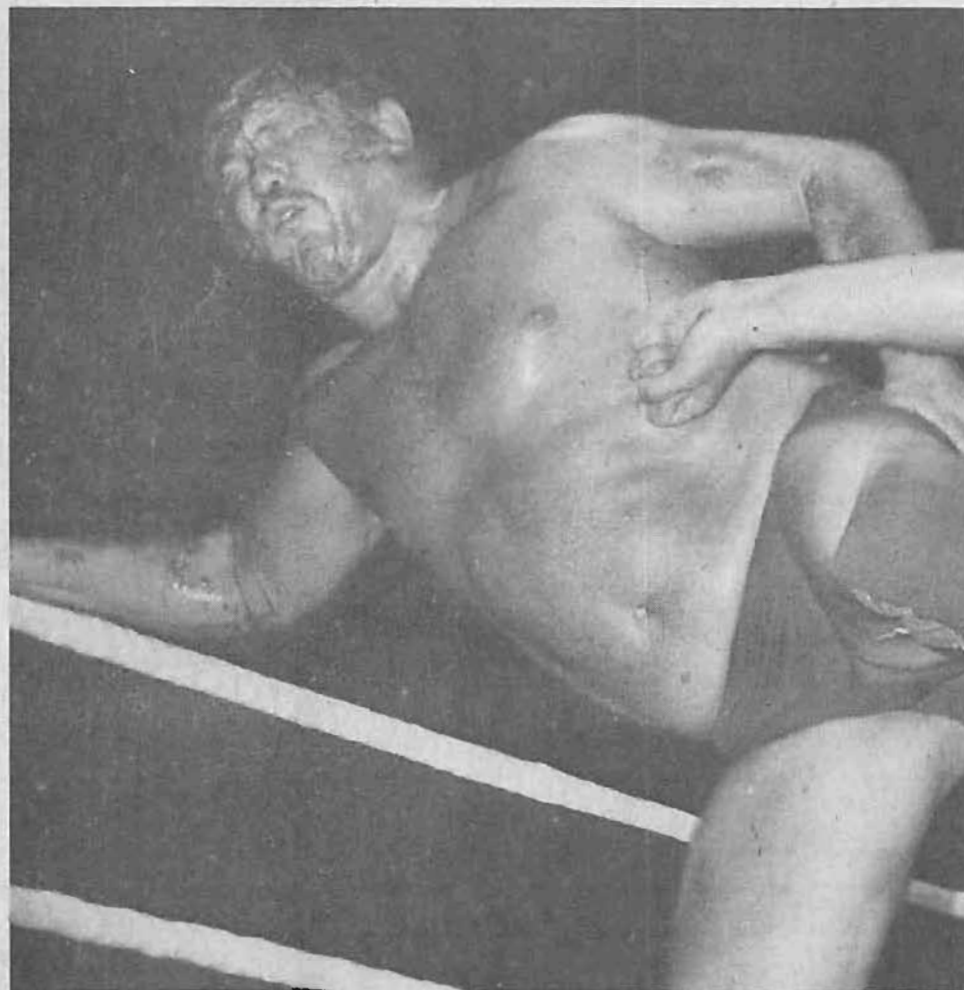
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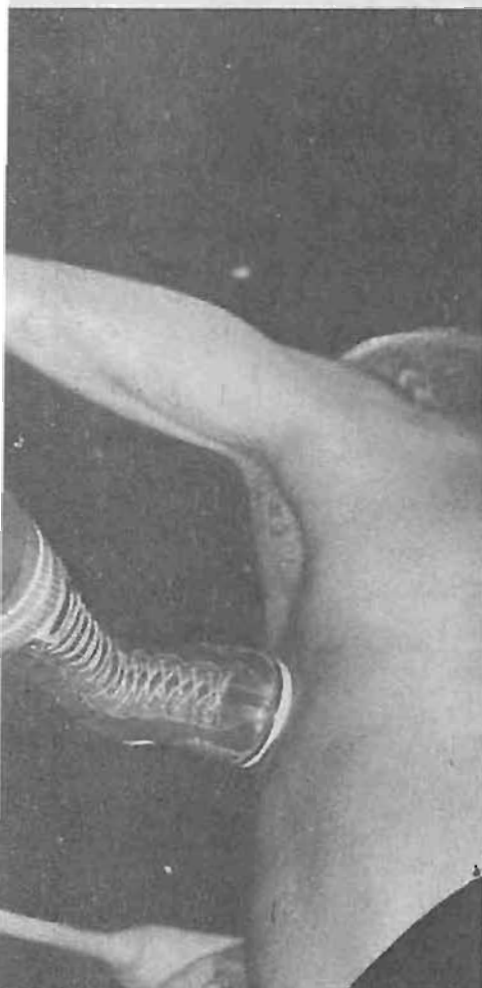
A bloodied Race instinctively kicks out as Murdoch throws a left to the champ's midsection (above). Murdoch's suplex on the concrete floor (left) took a great deal out of Race. He lost the NWA title days later, but regained it within a week.

any place in the world. I've never ducked a contender and I don't plan on it now," Race continued.

"I wrestled Baba in Japan and didn't think nothin' about signin' the contract to wrestle there," Race said angrily. "All I ask is my opponents show a little class and treat me square. I'll do the same for them. But Murdoch is another story.

"He likes to cheat, I don't like that, but he does. He's a crybaby and a whiner. He got lucky twice and it so happened I lost the title on the following matches. It happens, even to greats like me. But I don't want the press makin'





more out of this than there is," Race said.

In spite of Race's evasions, there is a reason why Dick Murdoch, in particular, drains the NWA champion.

"Ah, Race isn't much, so I don't to do much to whip his face around," Murdoch said. "I like wrestlin' Race because it's an easy match for me. He's so slow and clumsy, I can practice new maneuvers and get away with them without any worry at all.

"But I don't care about Race. I'm talkin' about the ungratitude of fellow wrestlers. I still can't believe no one called to thank me for what I done to Race. I thought more of Dusty and Baba, but I guess I was all wrong."

One wonders which is more transient in wrestling: titles or friendships. □

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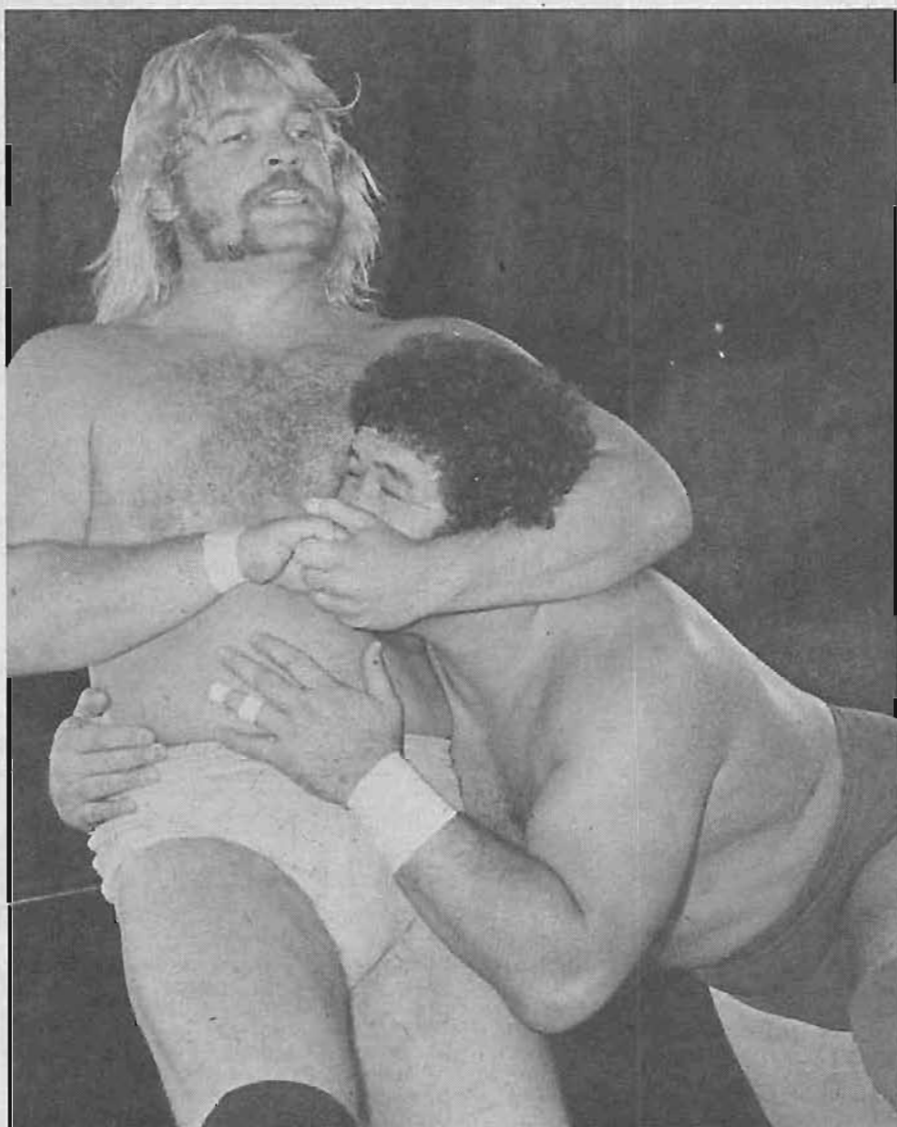
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# BRYAN ST. JOHN AND STANLEY LANE

(Continued from Page 45)



St. John has a solid grip on Fernandez. St. John and Lane spent as much as two hours a day studying films of their opponents. They could hold the Florida tag team belts for quite some time.

Florida are still in a bit of shock. Lane and St. John are two rookies no one ever thought would be champions. Who could remember the last time rookies were champions? Things like that just don't happen.

"Rookies winning a championship," Mike Graham explains, "is like being hit by a plague for which there's no known cure. We have only the sketchiest idea as to what St.

John and Lane can and cannot do. We don't really know their strengths and weaknesses. We don't even know what kinds of strategies to prepare. Right now, we can only struggle with various plans, hoping one will work. That's no way to win a match. Look, if you can't identify the disease, you can't find a cure.

"On the other hand, these guys have done their homework. St. John and Lane may bluster, but they're serious professionals. They know as much about us as there is to know. They must spend at least

two hours a day studying films. Ask any professional, they won't their title before the bell sounded. They knew exactly what to do and how to do it. It may have been the most perfectly plotted strategy I've ever seen.

"After the match, guys went around saying, 'Sure they're smart, but wait till the going gets tough. They can't think on their feet.' Two matches later, their strategy fell apart. Then, instead of seeing them collapse, we watched some really brutal battling. All guts and strength, they didn't use a single planned series of maneuvers. These guys are for real. You can take that to the bank.

"Of course, those two are the dirtiest wrestlers I've seen in a long time. Easily the dirtiest rookies that have ever been around. You wonder where they could learn those tricks so young. I've heard of growing up on the wrong side of the tracks, but those guys must have grown up underneath them."

Where Bryan St. John and Stanley Lane come from is not Graham's main concern. Like every other wrestler, he's more interested in seeing where the pair are going.

Already, they are champions. Still, defending a title is difficult and exhausting. Usually, true champions have to be forged on the anvil of experience. Few people expect the champions to remain on top for long. Of course, no one expected them to become champions in the first place.

"We're winners," St. John says, "and I can see no reason why we shouldn't stay winners. We want to stay winners."

"Do you always get what you want?"

"Yes," says Bryan, his smile of bloodlust making you believe they do. □

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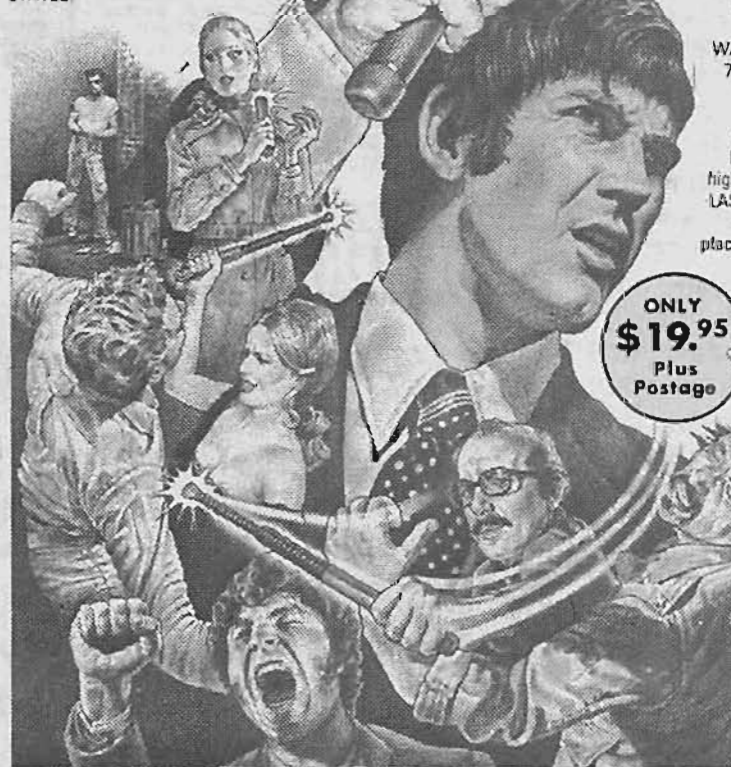
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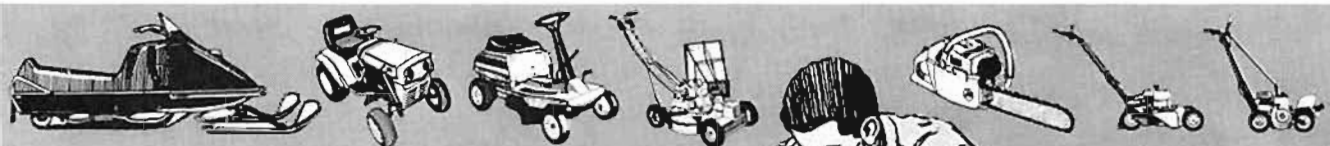
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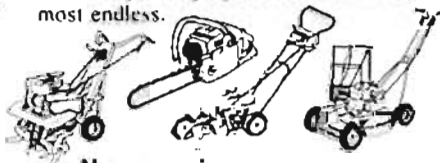
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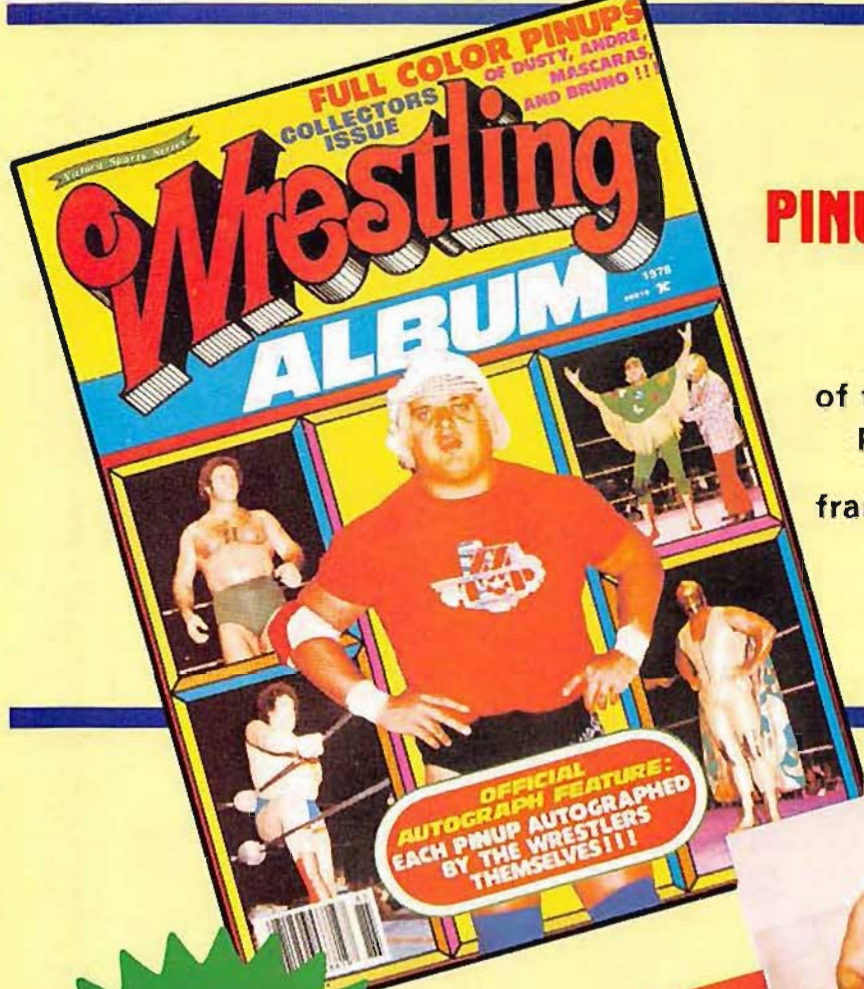
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